

The Minden Times

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2002

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LOOK INSIDE



Cold in the dark

Ruth Steele got pneumonia when hydro cut off the electricity at her Deep Bay Road home

See pages 3



Darren Lum/TIMES

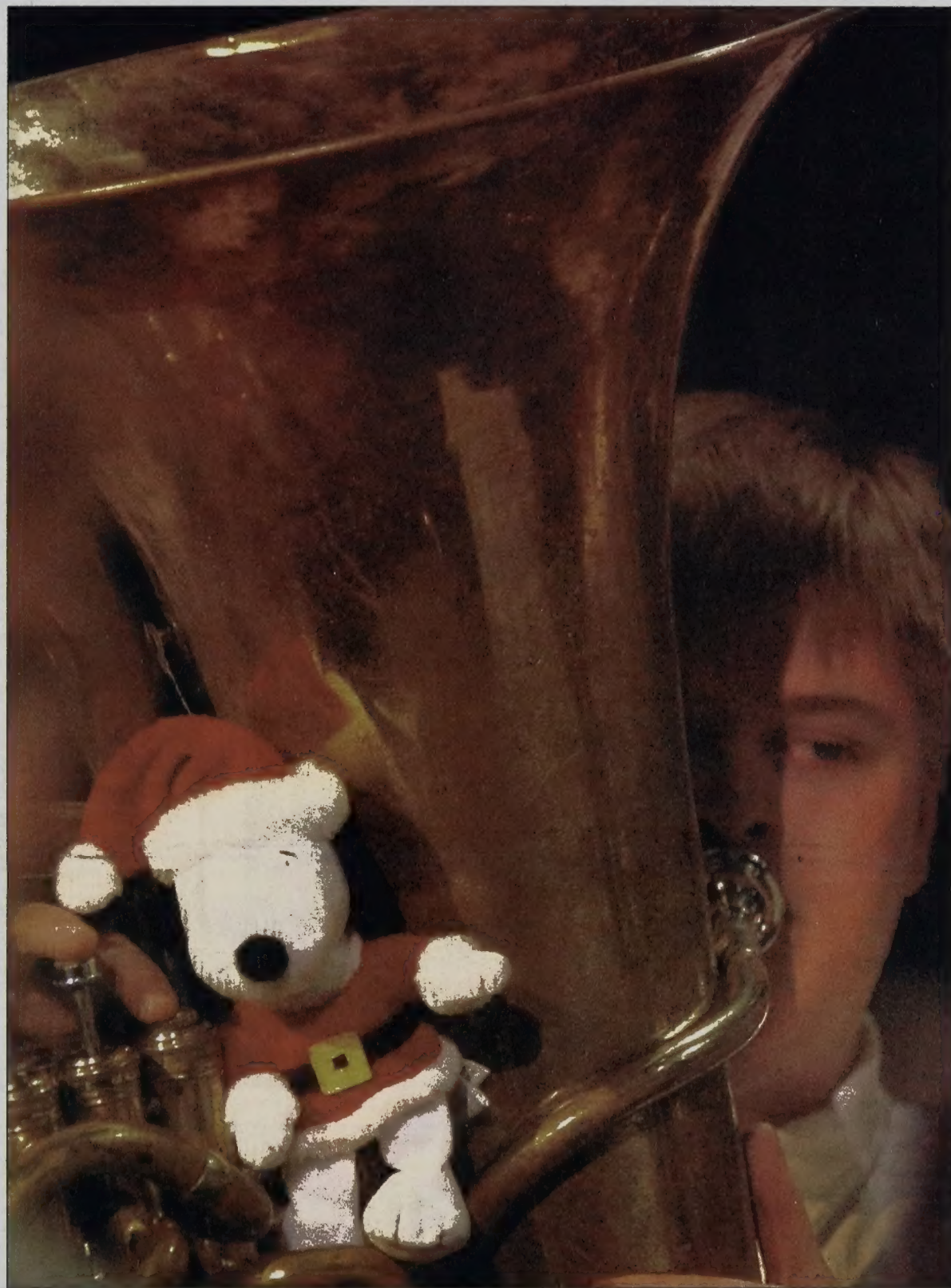
B & Bs spread yuletide cheer

Beautifully decorated homes greet participants in annual tour

See page 10

In Quotes

"I started to cry. I can't understand how the bill got so high when I only use one room."



A musical Christmas

Tuba player Chris Chumley and his friend Santa Snoopy play I'll be Home for Christmas during The Highland Wind Symphony's annual Christmas concert on December 2. The 44-member group is led by conductors Lori Reddering, an Archie Stouffer Elementary School music teacher, and Glen Carter.

Hands off Algonquin Highlands

Highlands politicians make plea to Elections Canada

by MAARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

One of the three people responsible for re-drawing Ontario's political map told Haliburton

County politicians that they made "a compelling case" for keeping Algonquin Highlands in the riding of Haliburton-Victoria-Brock.

Dr. Janet Hiebert is one of three commissioners who first recom-

mended that the municipality be annexed to Parry Sound/Muskoka and then, last Tuesday afternoon, listened to local politicians tell them why that isn't a good idea.

see TOWNSHIP'S page 6

Property values don't add up to fair taxation

by SHERYL LOUCKS
Times staff

The assessment on Ernie Wells' property on Kennisis River has increased by about 55 per cent in the last four years, a fact he would not mind if everyone else's property values were increasing at the same rate.

That is not the case as he discovered after doing some investigating. Instead, he's found that property inspectors usually visit a property only when someone has filed a building permit. That means assessments do not always reflect dramatic improvements made to the property.

Wells argues there is a much broader tax base out there than what the municipality can actually collect from because of problems in the system. He says those property owners who get permits are being penalized for following the rules because the burden of financing the municipality falls on them.

"I'm paying somebody else's taxes because I got a building permit," says Wells.

Carl Eisenburg, vice-president of customer relations at the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, did not deny this could be the case. MPAC, originally called the Ontario Property Assessment Corporation, began operating in 1998. Every municipality in Ontario is a member of MPAC, which is a non-profit corporation run by a board consisting of municipal representatives and property taxpayers.

see PROPERTIES page 19

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Recycling facility environmentally friendly: Garbutt

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

A local recycling facility will create jobs for Minden residents and will not have a negative impact on the environment, says a local businessman.

"Our biggest concern is the environment," says Jim Garbutt, the owner of Garbutt Disposal. "It might even create a few jobs around here."

He wants to create a recycling facility on a parcel of property near Kinmount that is approximately 40 acres, neighbouring the Haliburton County Marksman Club. It's surplus land owned by Minden Hills, which after a tender process, has agreed to sell the land to Garbutt for \$21,500. The land is zoned M1 for industrial use.

Garbutt says the proposed facility will separate and sort local recycling material and process it, adding that the development could save the county over the long haul. He said he couldn't go into details about the savings at this point.

"Nothing is definite yet," Garbutt says. "I'm not going to divulge things."

The land has been vacant for numerous years and council's initial reaction to the development was positive, as it saw the possibility of not only establishing business locally, but also of the chance to collect taxes on the property that has been not generating any tax base.

Garbutt's proposal has created a few sparks around the Minden Hills council table after Carol Marino and Ray Kettlewell, whose property neighbours the proposed development, presented some of their concerns about the proposed development to council at a recent council meeting.

Among several issues, the couple is curious if the

development will affect the environment, including the watershed, the close proximity of their well and a marsh that cuts right through the industrial land.

Marino and Kettlewell own about 24 acres of property within 650 feet of the land that Garbutt wants to buy near Howland Junction Road. The couple quoted Minden Hills' draft Official Plan, as well as the township's regulations for M1 zoned property, which includes special regulations for recycling facilities, providing council with what Reeve Ross Rigney were some "reasonable questions."

The couple was able to defer the passing of a bylaw that would have authorized the execution of an agreement for the purchase and sale of the property.

Garbutt says he was happy that council deferred the bylaw. "This way I can provide assurances that I will do things according to whatever regulations are in place regarding environment issues," he said.

The idea to develop the 40 acres started at a Minden Hills council meeting a few months ago.

Dave Sadler of Harding Iron and Metal initially approached the township at the end of August with a proposal to buy the property.

Before the township could agree to sell the land, it declared the property surplus and advertised the land for sale, asking for tenders to buy the property.

Garbutt's tender won the bid, with plans to build a recycling facility in the future. There was one other tender for mini storage units.

There was some confusion about a potential partnership between Garbutt and Sadler for the creation of the recycling facility as well as a salvage yard.

Garbutt says that Sadler is not his partner.

"He may be moving a salvage yard in [the property] but

nothing is definite yet," Garbutt said. "Possibly Sadler would be a tenant in the future."

Garbutt says he has a good relationship with the neighbouring property owners.

"I am quite willing to discuss this [facility] with these people," he said. "No one has even contacted me and asked me about it. All I can do is offer assurances."

He says he has walked through the property and has not seen any signs of wetlands.

An article ran in last week's paper about the recycling facility. Garbutt was called for comment and did not return The Times call. He said he was busy because of the snowstorm and couldn't get back to the newspaper. Garbutt dropped by The Times office last week to talk about the proposed development.

He said he wasn't avoiding the issue.

As a business owner in Minden since 1969, Garbutt says he has done nothing but "support this area. I don't avoid issues."

Garbutt says the decision to sell the property is in council's hands.

"It's up to council if they decide to sell it now," he said.

Garbutt seeks clarification

Jim Garbutt of Garbutt Disposal says there was no closed meeting between him and Minden Hills Council after the regular council meeting November 28 as reported in last week's *Minden Times*.

The *Times* was at the council meeting and was asked to leave the chambers by council. Garbutt was still in the council chambers for several minutes after the doors were locked. He says he just wanted to ask a few questions of council.



Matthew John Hamilton graduated June 7, 2002 from Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo. After four years of study at Laurier, Matthew has received a Bachelor Degree in Economics and Geography. His parents Brian and Mary Hamilton of Minden attended the convocation. Matthew is working for a local business.

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Shivering in the dark

Hydro cuts off
Minden woman's
electricity
for five weeks
because \$1,400
bill not paid

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

For the past five weeks Ruth Steele has been living in the dark, wrapped in three winter jackets, two pairs of pants and a sheep's skin blanket to keep warm.

Her hydro bill skyrocketed to more than \$1,400, nearly tripling over the past few months, and her fixed pension wasn't big enough to cover all of her living expenses.

Steele couldn't afford to pay her bills.

"I nearly fainted when I saw the hydro bill," Steele said, sitting in her shoe-box kitchen right beside the wood stove, wrapping her swollen, arthritic hands around a mug of coffee. She sleeps and eats in the kitchen - the only room that she will use in an effort to keep her bills lower. "Anytime I tried to call the hydro company to find out what was happening, I started to cry. I can't understand how the bill got so high when I only use one room."

Then the fateful day hit. Without a word of notice, Steele says, around five weeks ago Hydro One flipped the switch, disconnecting the 76-year-old woman from heat and electricity indefinitely through temperatures that reached as low as -30 C. Ruth can't remember the exact day the lights went out, but says her bones have been frozen ever since.

The long-time Minden resident, who has lived in a house on Deep Bay Road just past Bob Lake Road since the early 1960s, said she did the only thing she knew what to do to keep herself warm - chop wood.

Every night she would go outside to chop down some wood from her property. A week earlier she had thrown most of her kitchen chairs into the wood stove to keep the heat going. Two weeks before that she says she called eight different wood sellers to buy some wood. She managed to get her hands on some green wood, but quickly discovered that it didn't burn at all.

A couple of times Steele paid for a taxi to take her into town so she could buy a few logs, and fill up her water bottles with water from the fire hall. Ruth says the taxi's drivers were very helpful and even carried her wood and water to her front door.

The wood didn't last long. Steele was up day and night trying to keep the fire burning. "I haven't slept for the past month," she says. Anytime she would try to fall asleep, she would have to add more wood to the wood stove. As a result of her sleep deprivation and lack of heat,



Allison Taylor/TIMES

After tenants left her house on Deep Bay Road, Ruth Steele has been living in the kitchen. When she wasn't able to pay a \$1,400 bill, hydro cut off her power. At one point, she fed her kitchen chairs to her woodstove in an attempt to keep warm. Power was restored last week.

Steele developed pneumonia and a bladder infection.

"It never dawned on me that I needed help," she says. "I figured I had a plan."

That plan, which has worked since the early 1980s when her husband passed away, is to rent out part of her house to help offset some of her living expenses. Her two apartments went vacant over a month ago. Then the hydro went out and she didn't want to rent her place to someone until the heat was turned back on.

She didn't have money for groceries either.

"I'm surprised my canaries survived the cold," she said. "They continued to sing and everything. I didn't."

Enter Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Jim McMahon into the story.

He said he drives by her house every day and noticed that the lights weren't on. Some of Steele's neighbours offered to help Steele, but she was bound and determined to stay in her house, McMahon said.

After knowing Steele for the past 30 years, McMahon and Dick Schell of the county's social services department tried to move Steele to a warmer climate - into another home in town.

"She didn't want to go," McMahon said. "We couldn't allow her to freeze to death in her house."

McMahon called MPP Chris Hodgson, but they weren't having very much luck

getting any answers. Hydro One said they would only discuss individual accounts.

Steele says she called Hydro One numerous times but she had a difficult time understanding them and only got very frustrated.

Then the temperatures hit below -20C and Ruth showed up at her neighbour Monica Hutton's house to get some help.

McMahon organized some extra wood from the township to be delivered to Steele's house. The staff at the municipal office also organized some food to be delivered to Steele last week.

McMahon spent the last several days talking to various ministries with the provincial government - to no avail.

"I was just bounced around. No one was willing to take responsibility," McMahon said. He said he contacted Steele's family and advised them of her situation, but no one took any action.

McMahon was told that Bill 201, which the Ontario government said it would pass to ensure that no one would be disconnected from hydro this winter because they couldn't pay their bills, hasn't been passed yet. "They told me there was nothing they could do but add her name to a list," McMahon said.

Last Wednesday night around 9:30 p.m., Steele's lights went back on again.

"It seems to be a happy ending, but it shouldn't have ever happened," McMahon says. "We can't allow this type of thing to

happen. All [hydro] had to do was put a lien on her property and they would've eventually gotten their money."

Hydro One has since credited Steele's account for \$710. She wasn't sure why, but McMahon said that maybe Hydro One had credited the interest that had accumulated on her bill.

Hydro One would not discuss Steele's bill with The Times.

Although Hodgson will not discuss individual constituent's cases, he told The Times that the government is not going to allow people's hydro to be cut off.

"Locally we don't have a choice," Hodgson said. "It's cold. Heat is not a luxury item."

He said hydro prizes will be rolled-back to 4.3 cents per kwh and hydro customers would be rebated to that price back to May 1.

Among other things, the government is reviewing the charges on the hydro bills, researching tax incentives to build a greater supply of energy and encouraging conservation.

Now that her body has reached normal temperatures, Steele says she just needs a little time to get back on her feet again.

"I'm having some bad luck," she said. "I'll just keep active because nothings going to just happen for me."

If anyone has questions about their hydro bills, they are encouraged to call the Hydro hotline at 1-888-668-4636.

Fair board needs help to attract more crowds

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

A fresh idea, some kind of gimmick or even a few extra volunteers would help.

Members of the Haliburton County Fair Board have been knocking their heads against the wall for the past several years in an effort to preserve a large part of the county's history.

Fewer people have been making their way to the Minden fairgrounds, dragging the fair into a bit of a pit.

"Once the attendance goes down, the funds go just as quick," said fair board president Paul Walker at a recent Minden Hills council meeting.

Members of the fair board were asked to make a presentation to council after Councillor Ingram Wessell raised the issue of the dwindling attendance at a recent council meeting. Council wanted to find out what the board was doing and how it organized the fair each year.

"We need help quick. We've got to get a new gimmick or change the atmosphere of the fair to get the people back," Walker said.

Last year's attendance was down 600 people from the previous year's gate of 3,000, said Gwen Robinson, a member of the board.

"Being a small fair, we can't do the things that bigger fairs do," Robinson said. "All fairs are down over the past few years."

Walker said that the board is not getting enough financial support.

The board doesn't get any assistance from the county and there isn't a major corporate sponsor to help offset some of the fees. Robinson says that most fairs have corporate sponsors. Any sponsor would have to be agricultural, otherwise the board would lose the funding it gets from the provincial government — a grant worth \$3,200. As it is, many of the board members have had to dip into their own pockets to keep the fair afloat. Both Walker and Robinson had to sign a personal line of credit to ensure the prize money could be paid out last year.



File photo

The beef barbeque is one of the few events at the Haliburton County Fair that still pulls in the people every August.

Reeve Ross Rigney suggested the possibility of the township loaning the fair board money, or putting money up front, "especially if volunteers have to dip into their own pockets."

The township can't get overly involved because it could jeopardize the provincial grant money.

Because the money isn't being generated, the fair board cannot lure crowds with expensive entertainment or midways. Walker says that more volunteers might help the fair get out of the rut.

Insurance is another whammy for the fair board.

After September 11, insurance skyrocketed to around \$31,000, Robinson said.

Councillor Peter Oyler asked if the fair board had looked to other, more successful fairs to explore how and why they are successful.

Walker said board members travel to other fairs and have fairly open relationships with other fair boards, but the Haliburton County Fair could no longer compete with more popular fairs, such as Kinmount's.

"This municipality kicks in a lot of money in time to the fair. It would be helpful to know what we [Minden Hills] give to the fair above and beyond the other townships," Oyler said.

The county used to give money, Walker said.

Reminding Highlanders that the fair is county-wide is a huge part of the fair board's job. Among other things, council recommended handing out flyers, advertising more, becoming a member of the chamber of commerce and changing the date of the fair so it doesn't coincide with the CNE in Toronto.

All of the recommendations cost money, Robinson said.

"If the fair has been around for 138 years, why in the world should we be dragging it down now," Wessell said.

Walker said the board has no intention of throwing in the towel.

"It's just as easy to walk away from it," Walker said, "but we're bullheaded."

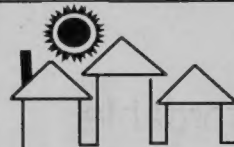
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Township's annexation would have huge impact on county: delegation

from page 1

Although she and the two other commissioners – Chairman Justice Douglas Lissaman and Dr. Andrew Sancton – didn't make any ruling on the Highlander's presentation, their comments did offer a ray of hope.

The hearing was held at Barrie's city hall. The local delegation included county warden Eleanor Harrison, who's also reeve of Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, county CAO Gary King, Algonquin Highlands CAO Gerald Bain and Dale Walker, president of the riding's Progressive Conservative association. Only Harrison, Fearrey and Walker made presentations.

Told to be there at 9:30 a.m., the local delegation wasn't called to speak until 2:15 p.m.. By this time, both the



Martha Perkins/TIMES

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, Haliburton County Warden Eleanor Harrison and Victoria-Haliburton-Brock PC riding association president Dale Walker made presentations to the Elections Canada commission at Barrie's city hall last Tuesday.

Highlanders and the three commissioners had already listened to numerous, and long, presentations from other ridings.

Abandoning their prepared scripts, which had already been given in advance to the commissioners, the local delegation made a more impromptu and heartfelt plea to keep Algonquin Highlands in this riding. As a result, their presentation was more like a conversation with the commissioners who responded in kind.

The federal government has given the commissioners the task of re-drawing Ontario's electoral boundaries to accommodate two new ridings in the Greater Toronto Area while keeping 10 ridings in the north. Each riding must have a population of 82,000 people, although they have a 25 per cent leeway in recognition that some northern ridings would be unmanageably big in order to meet that target.

Any boundary change adopted by the federal government by law must also be adopted by the provincial government.

In the last federal election, Elections Canada took Sherborne et al, Haliburton County's northernmost munic-

ipality and put it in Parry Sound-Muskoka. Since that time, Sherborne et al amalgamated with Stanhope to become Algonquin Highlands. In this round of boundary changes, the commissioners decided not to have one municipality split between two ridings and therefore put all of Algonquin Highlands in Parry Sound-Muskoka.

Local politicians, however, noted that while Algonquin Highlands would represent only one per cent of the new Parry Sound/Muskoka riding, it was 10 per cent of the county's permanent population.

"It's important you understand," Harrison said, "that Sherborne et al has a population of 536 people but Stanhope, the part you want to take away, has 1,300 people and they are definitely upset. Their community of interest is definitely to the south."

Scanton was one of the commissioners who put Sherborne et al with the north. He said that at the time, the commission was swayed by a person who argued that since Dorset, the main village in Sherborne, was divided down the main street between the two ridings, all of the village should be in one riding.

see LINE page 7

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Line through Dorset becomes major issue for commission

from page 6

"What about Robinson's General Store? Is it cut down the middle? It's a kind of sacred spot, I understand," said Lissaman.

This concern raised the suspicions of the local politicians. They suggested to Scanton that perhaps the person who had made the comment about Dorset lived on the Muskoka side of Dorset.

"There's been a move afoot to take some of our county away," Fearrey said, but the people they've talked to in the village want to be in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock.

It was unfortunate, Harrison said, that local politicians didn't find out about the previous boundary change until after it was official. The councils weren't notified beforehand, she said, and the hearings weren't advertised locally.

"It was too late when the county knew [about the change]," Fearrey said. "Otherwise we would have been at the table to re-unite Stanhope and Sherborne."

"We have to take some blame [for not making a presentation]," Harrison said, "but once the community realized what had happened, they weren't happy. They'd like to come back to this riding..."

"I'd really like to be able to persuade you to put us back in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock."

Part of the problem, she said, is that people in Parry Sound-Muskoka get all the benefits from living in an area designated as Northern Ontario - benefits that the voters in Algonquin Highlands aren't entitled to take advantage of.

Besides, she said, as municipal and county politicians, "we don't consider this line through Dorset to be a major problem so we're having problems understanding why it's presenting a difficulty for a federal elections commission."

"For the past 100 years it wasn't a problem," Fearrey said. "There's always been a line there. I fail to see it's such a terrible situation."

Scanton said "all that we were trying to do is to put all of Dorset in the same electoral district."

"I don't think it's that big of a problem," Fearrey responded. "One person make a representation on it. If Dorset is a problem, Dorset is a problem, but all of Algonquin Highlands isn't."

Then Fearrey made a point that Harrison would later disagree with. If the commissioners really don't want to split Dorset, Fearrey said, then put a line around Dorset

and put it in the north but keep the rest of the municipality in the south.

"What you're saying," Lissaman said, "is an even split is the least of two evils."

[Better to split Algonquin Highlands than split the entire municipality away from the riding.]

Harrison said she was vehemently opposed to this option, arguing that all of the municipality should be kept together and put in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock.

"We have enough problems with amalgamation without you splitting us," she said.

"You're saying," Scanton said, "that it's better to take half a hamlet and all of a municipality and the people [in Dorset] are used to being split."

Scanton said it bothered him that at the last hearing, "someone made what seems like a perfectly sensible proposal" to keep Dorset in one riding and therefore the commission made the change. Should the commission make another change without hearing from people who would argue for keeping Dorset in one riding?

"This is the place we talk about these issues and yet no one comes," Scanton said.

"Everyone has a side," Harrison said, but she notified federal and provincial politicians in Parry Sound-Muskoka of her submission to the commission and neither the MPP nor MP opposed it.

[Earlier in the meeting, MPP Norm Miller quoted from Harrison's letter arguing against the change but then joked he liked having more people in his riding to vote for him.]

If taking Algonquin Highlands out of Parry Sound-Muskoka presented a numbers problem for the commissioners, then Harrison suggested that they keep the Kearney/Burk's Falls area in Parry Sound-Muskoka rather than move it to Nippissing. A delegation from Kearney earlier in the day made the same plea.

"What you're suggesting is consistent with what other delegations have argued," Hiebert said.

"I got the feeling the Hwy. 11 corridor wanted to stick together [in Parry Sound-Muskoka]," Scanton said. "If we draw another line we may be told we made a bad situation worse but at least we appreciate your coming up



County warden Eleanor Harrison, who is also reeve of Algonquin Highlands, made an impassioned plea to have the township put in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock.

with an alternative."

The commissioners didn't make any commitment to the local delegation but their comments seemed to indicate there may be an amicable solution.

"I'm pleased you pointed that out," Lissaman said after the comment that voters who live in Haliburton County can't benefit from Fed/Nor funding. "We've certainly made a note of it. Eighteen-hundred people make a great deal of difference to Haliburton County but not to Parry Sound-Muskoka."

"You make a compelling case," Hiebert said.

It's not known when the commission will be making its report.

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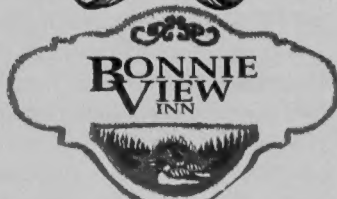
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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Time to re-direct registration money

It seems the big media have finally discovered what firearms owners have known for years. Registration of guns does nothing to save lives.

Those who believe registering longarms will have any effect on the criminal misuse of firearms need only look at the effectiveness registration has had on handguns. Registration of handguns has been compulsory since 1934, yet crimes involving handguns has continued to increase, especially in recent years. There is no evidence that handgun registration has prevented a single death.

Records are already in place that police officers could access which would tell them if a person who is stopped for a traffic violation is a gun owner. It is a PAL (possession acquisition licence) or POL possession only licence). Anyone who possesses a firearm of any kind must now have either a PAL or POL.

Adding insult to injury, the registration system is riddled with mistakes – RCMP officials have been quoted as saying 25 per cent of the entries are inaccurate. Accuracy is paramount to the success of such a system. How much value is a registry with such a high rate of inaccuracy.

It took a scathing report from Auditor General Sheila Fraser, who exposed the registration scheme as the ineffective and obscenely expensive farce that it is. A plan that then justice minister Allan Rock assured would cost \$85-million to implement, with a net cost of just \$2-million. The rest, he claimed, would be offset by licensing fees. Rock assured taxpayers that if the project ever reached \$150-million, it would be scrapped.

The federal Justice Department now admits the cost is more than \$860-million and will top the \$1-billion mark. The Auditor General stated that the Justice Department's records are so poor and unreliable that she abandoned the review ahead of schedule. Whether we'll ever know the true cost is doubtful. Expenses directly related to firearm registration may have been charged to some other account without showing up on the bill for registration.

If ever there was a case of criminal misuse of public funds, the spending of upwards of a billion dollars (that's a one with nine zeros, a thousand million!) to register rifles and shotguns must be at the top of the list.

In terms of dollars spent on the registration scheme, the program has already cost many more lives than it could ever save. How many people have died in the last couple of years alone while waiting for emergency medical treatment because there weren't enough doctors, emergency medical personnel or equipment available?

How many people do you know who have been injured or killed by misadventure with a firearm? By comparison, how many people do you know who are suffering or have died from cancer or some other life-threatening disease?

How much closer would we be to a cure for cancer or AIDS if a billion dollars had been spent on research. How many more police officers could have been hired and how many programs could have been instituted to prevent criminal activity. How many more doctors, nurse practitioners, RNs, and Emergency Medical Services personnel could we have with a billion dollars? How many MRI machines? The list of life-saving services where the money would have made a significant difference goes on and on.

If a private corporation encountered such scandalous misappropriation of funds there is no question that the person(s) responsible would face disciplinary action at the very least and more likely criminal prosecution.

The question is will the ruling party continue to pour money into this bottomless pit or will it cut our losses and scrap the registration portion of the Firearms Act?

ig

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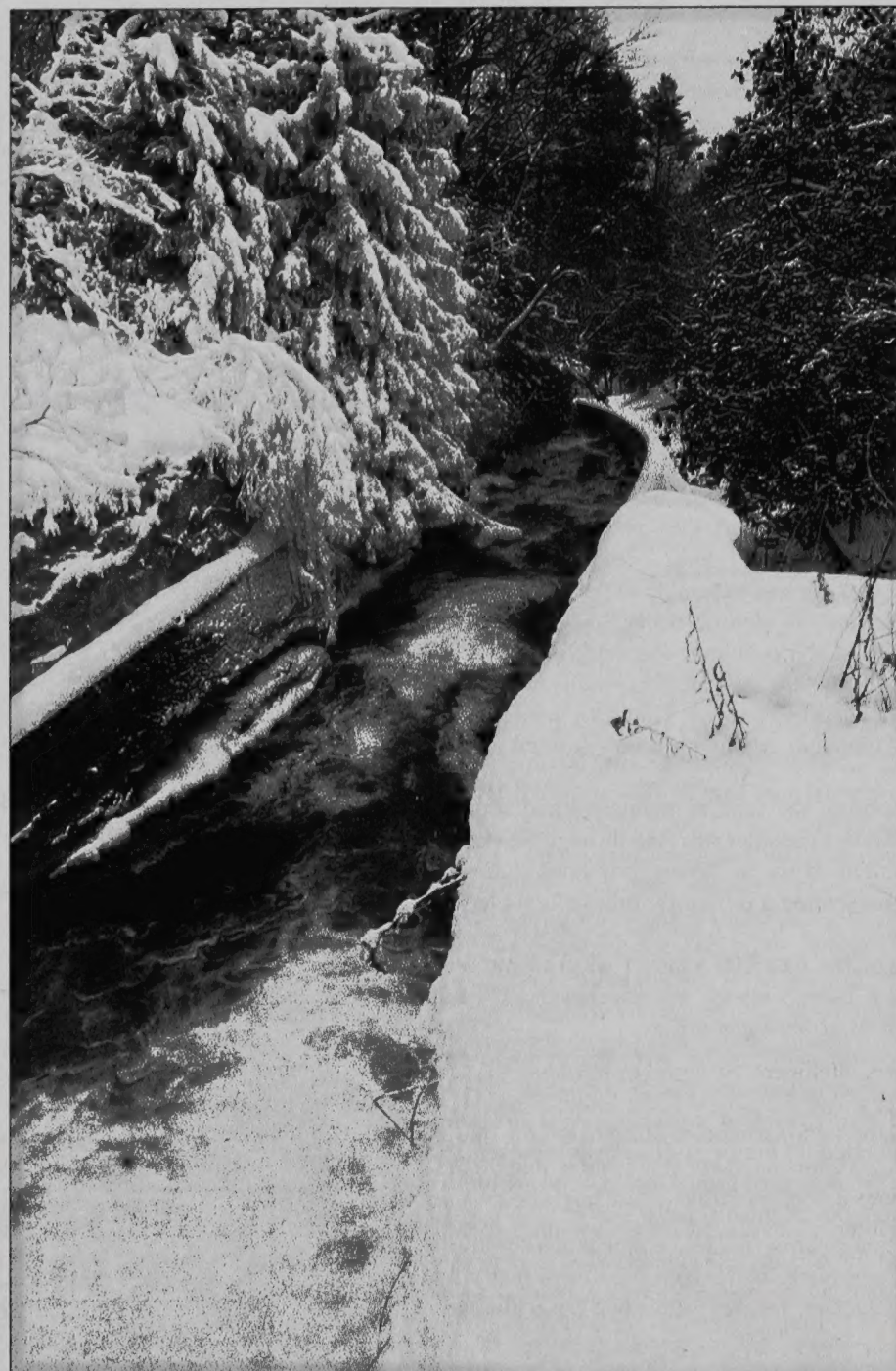
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IMAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS

Buttermilk falls

Photo by DARREN LUM/Times

TO THE EDITOR

Times readers write

Grant news a matter of timing

To the Editor:

Re: November 18, 2002 article - Calling all artists... grant money awaits.

In response to my not circulating the news of the grants to the two artists:

Background:

1. Grants are applied for by the individual artists directly to Canada Council and not through the Member's office.

2. Canada Council Board meets four (4) times a year. Members are notified twice a year, February and October.

3. Grants under \$60,000 are peer approved and grants over \$60,000 are approved by the board.

4. All peer approved grants are presented to the next board meeting and then released to the members within a few months.

My office has been in touch with the Council office and asked to be notified after the meetings.

The cheques for Ms. Barkhouse and Mr.

Belmore were issued in January, brought to the board at its March meeting, as members were notified in February, we had to wait until October for the next notification.

Again, I congratulate Mary Anne Barkhouse and Michael Belmore and wish them every success in the future.

Yours sincerely
John O'Reilly, MP

Ontario abets confusion

The following letter was sent to Premier Ernie Eves, with a cc to The Times.

Dear Mr. Eves:

Re: Firearms Licensing

In 1995 former Premier Harris promised that Ontario would only support the federal firearms legislation in matters related to the

see PROVINCIAL page 9

IN OTHER WORDS

Columnists and Letters to the Editor

Cutting edge news

Okay, forgive me if I get a little political here. But I'm flabbergasted by the big breaking news this week about the over run costs in the federal gun registration program. I'm not shocked at the astronomical costs mind you, I'm shocked that the mainstream media suddenly considers this breaking news. If this is the way it goes, I imagine that next week they'll report that oil spills are bad for the environment or that cigarettes might be linked to cancer. The only excuse for this is if Rip Van Winkle broke the story. Otherwise, no one else should have been asleep at the wheel.

What the Auditor General and the media are telling us is stuff that opponents of this legislation have been saying for years. Namely, the system is exorbitantly expensive and absolutely inefficient.

I'm not going to get into the pros and cons of a national gun control program. Let's just say, I've seen enough of it to know that I believe it's a stupid idea

doomed to punish the wrong people – law abiding gun owners.

Worse still, I don't believe it will protect anyone or help our policing efforts one bit. If I thought it might, I would be right behind it. Believe me, I would.

But I'm not. At worst, it's a criminal misappropriation of funds, at best it's created another bungled federal bureaucracy. Given that I believe most people, our politician's included, want to do what's right, I'll be charitable and lean towards the latter.

But some of the statements coming out of this issue have left me wondering about whether its implementers ought to be asked to register their common sense since it seems that when used incorrectly, this lethal weapon can cost society funds

that might have saved lives in health care, peace keeping or true crime prevention. After all gun-related deaths and injuries, pale in comparison to those caused by

smoking, alcohol abuse, speeding, and a host of other societal woes.

Want an example of common sense being used in a drive-by shooting? How about Allan Rock's statement where he essentially blamed the cost over runs, from \$68 million to an estimated one billion dollars, on provinces opposing the federal program and on gun lobby groups. If you ask me this is akin to a rapist telling the judge that if the victim had consented it wouldn't be rape.

Since when we're we supposed to be led like a herd of sheep? As far as I can remember, this is a democracy where we

are duty bound to voice opposition to legislation that we think is unjust.

Anyhow, now that this is all out, it'll be interesting to see what a government does with the Canadian Firearms Centre and the flawed legislation that keeps it afloat. I'm certainly not naïve enough to believe that we'll see big changes. White elephants like this one are hard to kill, especially given the difficulties of firearms ownership in Canada.

I suspect that this whole fiasco is something that we'll have to get used to. After all, its political death to admit that you are wrong on such a large scale. And new governing parties very rarely tear down such hugely entrenched boondoggles, as is witnessed by the GST.

Still, Joe Clarke said, "Heads should roll over this one."

And that's an ironic choice of words. Because, if we lop off a few heads, we'll have to do so with unregistered axes.



BEYOND 35

Steve Galea

Canada's secret weapon: The beaver

Could we be serious about the beaver for a moment? The business of choosing a national mascot is important and most countries treat it with appropriate solemnity. After all, a national mascot tells the rest of the world which characteristics a nation holds dear. Hence, most countries choose mascots that are brave, intelligent, powerful or in some other way dominant and admirable. The U.S. opted for a ferocious bald eagle, wings a-flare and talons flashing. Britain reveres a doughty bulldog with a spiked collar and a gobful of wicked-looking teeth. France lines up behind an Amazonian, barricade-besiding goddess named Marianne. Russia has the burly bear; Costa Rica the magnificent jaguar.

And Canada? Canada has a rat.

Castor Canadensis, to be precise. A bottom-feeding pond dweller with buck teeth, a furry spare tire and a tail that looks like it was run over by a Winnebago.

Our national mascot is not noticeably heroic, muscular, clever or oversupplied with sex appeal. That might lead you to think that Canada placed last in the national mascot sweepstakes.

Don't kid yourself. Bucky Beaver may look like a loser, but he is taking over the world as I write.

Don't believe me? Ask the Russians. Away back in the 1950's somebody in

Finland (a serious vodka enthusiast, I suspect) got the bright idea of bringing in a brace of Canadian beavers and turning them loose in the Finnish wilderness.

The Canuck imports settled right in, booting out the local European beaver population (they really were kind of wussy) and started to do the two things Canadian beavers do best: making dams and making little beavers.

They made a lot of little beavers. Before long, offspring from those first Canadian migrants were paddling inexorably toward Sweden to the west and Russia to the east.

Today, Russian biologists glumly reckon there are at least 20,000 Canadian beaver building unrequested water management projects in northwest Russia. And they're expanding ever southward.

Think about it: the Canadian beaver stands poised to take Moscow - something even Napoleon couldn't do.

You'd think Finlanders might have learned from the Argentinian experience.

Back in the 1940's Argentina imported 25 breeding pairs in an attempt to create a

fur industry down there. The beaver liked the Argentine outback even more than the European backwoods – and responded in their characteristic beaverian way. Right now, Argentina is smothered in upwards of 50,000 industrious ex-Canadian dam-builders.

And Britain? Don't even mention Canadian beavers in Britain.

Recently, some environmentalists in London suggested purchasing some Canadian beavers to reintroduce the animal into the English countryside, where they've been extinct for at least a millennium.

The British press went nuts. "Keep the furry thugs in Canada" one editorial huffed. Another called them

"loutish interlopers" and "uncivilized brutes."

Scary. They don't even talk about our hockey players that way.

So is there nothing that can stop a full-scale beaver invasion? Well, there is one antidote – but it's even scarier. This Anti-Beaver Initiative was created here in Canada, fittingly enough. On a prairie farm belonging to 87-year-old Tom

Harper. Tom had a Beaver Problem. They plugged his creek and flooded his fields. Looked like they might even flood him out of house and home if something wasn't done.

Tom tried everything. He called the authorities; they yawned. He set the dogs loose; the beavers swam away. He set live-traps; the beavers ignored them. He even tried shooting them. Big deal. There were plenty more where they came from.

In desperation, Tom Harper set up loudspeakers near the principal beaver dam. He hooked the speakers up to his radio and (I'm not sure the editor will print this, but....) He tuned the radio dial to CBC Radio One and cranked up the volume.

CBC Radio One. News and interviews followed by more news and more interviews. Documentaries on Gay/Lesbian/Aboriginal/Transsexual/Dyslexic/Post Modern/Post-Partem issues. Round table discussions on: The Kyoto Accord, Whither the Progressive Conservatives? Senate Reform. And (no connection) Greenhouse Gas.

CBC Radio One. Twenty-four-seven. The beavers lasted 76 hours before they waddled into the Prairie wilderness, never to be seen or heard from again. So, yes the beaver can be bested. But there is such a thing as cruel and unusual punishment.



ARTHUR BLACK

Columnist

Provincial promise to grandfather firearms owners licenses not fulfilled

from page 8

safety provisions (owner licensing) of the Act. He insisted that Ontario would not support long-gun registration, that no Ontario resources would go to support the federal registry and that Ontario would opt-out of the universal registry (eight other jurisdictions have done so). We are aware that the Ontario CFO's staff grew to a \$10 million, 200 person operation.

The federal firearms licensing program deadline ended on December 31, 2000. The Ontario CFO's office is still approving every firearm purchase and transfer in Ontario. In fact, as a result of the Ontario CFO's own alternate certification program huge numbers of Ontario's firearms owners have refused to become licensed and as a result will be unable to register their

firearms by December 31, 2002. They refuse to pay for unnecessary courses/exams. The clear intention of the federal government under the Firearms Act, section 7(4)(a) was that experienced firearms owners would be grandfathered into Possession and Acquisition Licenses (PAL's) and exempt from any firearms tests.

It was anticipated that current firearms owners' access to licensing would be as straightforward as it is for Aboriginal and Metis hunters. Access to licensing was premised on the goal of One National Standard for all experienced firearms owners. It is understood that the federal government intended that licensing would be as

seamless as possible and would elicit support from firearms owners. For this reason, Manitoba and Quebec were first off the mark and had their hunter education courses approved as being Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) equivalent. As a result, all hunters in these two provinces have been grandfathered into PAL's since December 1998.

It is alarming that the Ontario provincial government is achieving exactly what the federal Liberals hoped would occur. The province's refusal to reduce red tape and act in a user friendly manner will result in fewer active firearms owners and fewer firearms as owners quit in frustration. This was a thinly disguised objective of the fed-

eral Liberal's C-68.

It is notable that the province's actions related to licensing of experienced firearms owners has had the most negative impact on those owners who have the greatest level of resources and opportunity to participate in the hunting and shooting sports.

We urge you to be fair and reasonable and proceed as quickly as possible in the grandfathering of all existing owners of firearms (as of December 1998) into PAL's. Proceeding in this regard will no doubt offer a resolution for the paper criminalization of a large number of Ontarians.

Mark Wood, President
Haliburton / Victoria / Brock Riding
Assoc., Canadian Alliance Party

TO THE EDITOR

Times readers write

Right: Melissa Stephens, Elly Malcolm, Chris Archer and Jesse Pflug sing carols at the Stouffer Mill B&B retreat.

Below right: Rickie Woods shows how to make a pitcher at her studio during the tour.

Middle, below right: Lesley Elliot shares a laugh with a tour guest at her Minden House B&B on the second floor of the building.

Bottom right: A wooden carving says it all, 'Christmas greetings'.

Bottom left: The Windswept Farms Studio and Gallery's entrance invites.

Above bottom left: A guest looks around at the Sunny Rock B&B.

Below: A woman looks out the window of the Minden House.

Right of below: Christmas tree and decorations are reflected in a Christmas ball.

Photos by Darren Lum



Highlands Christmas tour attracts hundreds



Despite the inclement weather, there were still a few hundred people who toured the annual Christmas Tour of Haliburton Highlands Bed and Breakfasts & Selected Studios. With 10 bed & breakfasts and studios on the tour there was something for everyone to see. Though attendance numbers were down from last year's tour there were still people from as far as New Jersey, Kitchener and Toronto.

'Orphan' patients add stresses to healthcare

by SHERYL LOUCKS
Times staff

The following is a brief account of the meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board of directors in November.

Kim Stamp addressed the issues of "orphan patients", those people who do not have a family physician and are therefore relying on the hospitals to provide primary care. She says there is a significant financial impact on HHHS because of the additional work needed to get admission data on top of the actual cost of treating these patients.

The auditors, she says, insisted this year that HHHS have an acting supervisor to manage these case files. Stamp says they advertised the position and an individual has been chosen to begin on Dec. 16.

Information system

A new information technology system will be developed for HHHS in partnership with Lindsay's Ross Memorial Hospital. Thousands of dollars have been spent trying to keep the current system operational and the board has long been

investigating options to upgrade.

The new proposed system will cost approximately \$200,000 and was found to be the most practical option. Stamp told the board the committee has reached a comfort level with Ross Memorial and are moving ahead with the project.

Financial statements

Cathy Outram, HHHS chief financial officer, said that the second quarter financial statements showed the HHHS was down in patient revenues in the x-ray department. Administrators are working with x-ray staff to see what they can do to improve that area.

A second factor in the second-quarter deficit of \$131,000 is the unexpected large amount of benefits, primarily owing to maternity leaves. Outram says there are five maternity leaves at the Haliburton site and four at Minden.

The cash flow is tight and she's asked the ministry for a cash advance particularly since they are having to pay for unbudgeted work for the water system now required by new legislation.

Hyland Crest is operating temporarily in a budget surplus position but she does not expect that to last till the end of the year. Keith Sansford, HHHS chief executive officer, commented the primary reason the two nursing homes are in a good position is because of the shared administration costs.

Outram says the nursing envelope is over spent for both facilities and the county used to have to kick in substantial money to get it to balance. She is hoping when Extendicare talks with them as a consultant she will get an insight into how they can find greater efficiencies.

Minden bird count is December 14

Volunteers are needed for the annual Christmas Bird Count throughout the Highlands.

In the *Times* story about the count, an incorrect date appeared in the headline. Please note it's on the Saturday, not Sunday. Call Ed Poropat at 457-3018 to find out how to take part.



Lighting up the Angel Tree

First Minden Pathfinders invite people to pick an angel from the Angel Tree at the Minden CIBC, purchase a gift, wrap it and return the gift to the CIBC tree, with the angel attached. From left are Pathfinder leader Sue Azevedo, Pathfinders Deanne McKay, Angela Willing, Ashton Steveno, Jackie Steward and Leader June Hendry.

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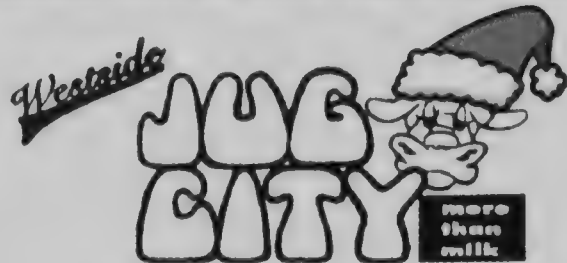
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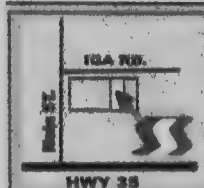
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Christmas Crafts

for the

KID

Silly Snowman Ornament

You will need:

- glue
- cording, gold
- craft foam, black, brown, orange, white
- pencil
- scissors, straight-edged
- wiggle eyes, 6mm, 2 per snowman
- pink cosmetic blush or powder



Instructions:

- Trace the snowman shape onto the white craft foam, then cut it out.
- Trace, then cut out a nose from orange foam and two arms from brown foam.
- Cut a 1-1/4 inch x 1-1/2 inch rectangle of black foam for the hat and a 3/8 inch x 1-3/4 inch piece of black foam for the hat brim.
- Cut two irregular pieces of black foam for the snowman's "buttons."
- Rub the snowman's cheeks with pink powder blush.
- Using the glue, glue the brim to the hat, then glue the hat to the head.
- Glue the nose and eyes to the face.
- Glue the arms to the back of the snowman.
- Glue the buttons to the front of the snowman's body.
- Make a gold cord or ribbon loop hanger, then glue it to the back of the hat.

Sugar Christmas Ornaments

Homemade Christmas ornaments made from sugar and glitter.

Materials you will need:

- sugar
 - glitter
 - water
 - cookie cutters
 - yarn or ribbon
 - glue
 - scissors
- Mix 1/2 cup sugar and 1 teaspoon of glitter.
 - Stir in 1 teaspoon of water until evenly moist.
 - Press mixture into cookie cutters.
 - Gently tap the ornament onto a plate to dry overnight.
 - Cut enough thread or yarn to make a loop and glue a hanger onto the back of each ornament.

Please note: Makes four ornaments. Add food colouring for a different look.

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Christmas RECIPES

PEPPERMINT BALLS

MMMMMM..... Delicious

1 tspn. milk

2 tbsns. finely crushed peppermint

12 tbsps. cream cheese
1/2 c. powdered sugar
1 drop red food coloring
1/2 cup powdered sugar
1 tspn. vanilla

1 cup butter
2 1/3 cup flour
1/4 cup powdered sugar

6 tbsps. finely crushed peppermint candies

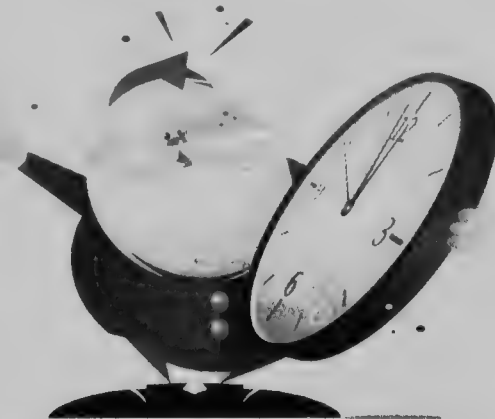
Combine: room temperature cheese and milk and add 1/2 cup powdered sugar slowly
Stir in 2 tbsps. candy & food coloring, set aside for filling.
Cream butter, 1/2 cup powdered sugar, mix in vanilla, then flour.
Knead dough into balls, make a deep well in center of each ball.
Fill with 1/4 tspn. of filling, shape gently to seal.
Place on ungreased cookie sheet, bake at 350F for 12 minutes.
Roll warm cookies in combined 1/4 cup powdered sugar & 6 tbsps.

Snow Balls

1 cup butter
2 tspns. vanilla
2 tspns. baking powder
8 oz. of pecan halves
1 egg white
1/2 cup sugar
2 cups flour (sifted)
1/4 tspn. salt
1 tbspn. water
1 cup flaked coconut

1. Mix butter, sugar and vanilla until fluffy
2. Mix flour and salt into butter mixture
3. Chill an hour
4. Roll into 1 inch balls around a pecan half
5. Beat egg white and water
6. Dip balls in egg mixture, then in coconut
7. Place on greased cookie sheet.
8. Bake at 350F for 15 to 18 minutes.
9. Cool on sheet for several minutes, then transfer to wire rack.

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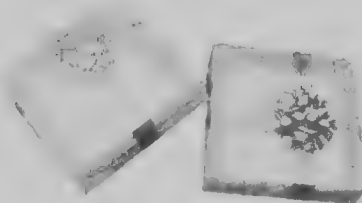
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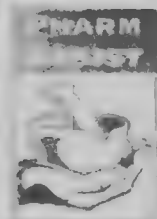
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The junior Red Hawks basketball team won their home opener against the I.E. Weldon Wildcats 53-41. Senior Red Hawks also opened the season at home, but lost 47-74 to the senior Wildcat team. See game briefs on page 17.

Red Hawks rise, then fall

by DARREN LUM
Times staff

The HHSS senior women's volleyball team were in tough during a round-robin, best-of-two match, rally-point, home tournament last week. Despite having chances to close out matches, head coach Paul Morissette used the tournament as a tune-up. He adds it was an opportunity to give everyone a chance to play and see where his players is best suited for.

There were six schools, including HHSS, that competed at the school's first tournament this year: Clarke, St. Thomas Aquinas, Fenelon Falls, LCVI, and I.E. Weldon. The Red Hawks finished in the second half, winning two games from five matches. Both game wins came early in the afternoon as a result of split decisions against Clarke and St. Thomas Aquinas. LCVI, the perennial volleyball powerhouse, finished the tournament in first place with a 10-0 record.

Instituted new this year for high schools was the 'libero' position. Started last year in the Italian volleyball league second year senior Erica Fearrey filled that role this tournament and is expected to continue at that position for the Kawartha Championships due to her mobility and digging abilities.



Jess Keetch fully extends, spiking the ball in a game against Aquinas.

Match 1 HHSS 25 Clarke 20

It didn't look good in the early going for the Red Hawks who fell behind early, 6-8. Cassie Hie got the team turned around when she strung together a few points off of a combination of strong serves and Clarke miss hits. She tied the game on her serve when the team looked to be out of the game. The momentum shift gave the team a boost that they were able to ride with solid net play, both defensively and offensively. The team went on a 15-7 run towards their largest lead of the game, 23-15, but lost their focus temporarily, nearly allowing Clarke back into the game who struck for five points against one HHSS point. At game point, Jess Keetch came into the game and sealed victory with a solid spike that landed in the centre of the court against a stunned Clarke team.

HHSS 14 Clarke 25

In the second game, the Red Hawks appeared to lack the same focus as demonstrated in their opening game. Conversely, Clarke came out with a focus to win as they built a 10-2 lead. This lead was whittled down to five points, but it was the closest the Red Hawks would come to tying. The eight point lead couldn't be overcome as the Clarke team continued to attack the Red Hawks net and backcourt defenses.

Match 2 HHSS 25 St. Thomas Aquinas 14

Solid play from second-year senior Cheryl Ripley helped to propel the Red Hawks to another game victory. After going down 1-2 to the St. Thomas Aquinas team, the Red Hawks found their game and never looked back.

At 2-2 Chelsea Dunn served. Set up with a soft volley, Ripley smashed an unblocked spike that painted the back of the line for the first Red Hawk lead of the game. Dunn would add two more service points before hitting the net. The Aquinas team followed up the Red Hawks service error with one of their own. Ripley took over with her serve and would add four more points for a 9-3 lead, one that wouldn't be relinquished.

HHSS 21 St. Thomas Aquinas 25

As in the first game, the Red Hawks came out fired up, earning a 10-7 lead. They lost that lead and then both teams traded points until the score was tied, 12-12. Off a series of strong serves by Aquinas players, the Red Hawks were either unable to set anything up, sending several free balls over or were unable to hit the ball over the net. The Aquinas team eventually built a five point lead, 14-19, that couldn't be overcome. HHSS did mount a brief comeback, coming within one point on three occasions, but just couldn't find the equalizer.

Match 3 HHSS 20 I.E. Weldon 25

The Red Hawks held a short two point lead early in the game, but couldn't stave off the onslaught of I.E. Weldon. The Lindsay team were able to pull away with a 15-5 run for a 23-13 lead. As a testament to the Red Hawks' character they battled through the entire game. The Red Hawks fought off four game points before succumbing to I.E. Weldon.



Cheryl Ripley leaps up and gets a spike off before her defenders can react.

HHSS 15 I.E. Weldon 25

Even though the Red Hawks started strongly, building a 5-1 lead, they just couldn't keep pace with I.E. Weldon who tied it and pulled away with solid net play and dug out nearly everything hit by the Red Hawks.

Match 4 HHSS 12 LCVI 25

The game started evenly as both teams traded points. With the score tied 3-3 the strong squad from LCVI pulled away, stringing together 17 straight points. A key absence for the team was Ripley who was attending to a personal matter.

HHSS 5 LCVI 25

By the second game, the Red Hawks just didn't have the weapons to compete against LCVI's high octane offense. LCVI used their power and touch game to full advantage for the victory. Coach Morissette gave many first year seniors the opportunity to get some game experience when the game was out of reach.

Match 5 HHSS 21 Fenelon Falls 25

After falling behind by three points, the Red Hawks tied the game 5-5, but fell behind again when Fenelon Falls scored four points in a row. That was the closest the Red Hawks would come to winning the game as the Falcons pulled away.

HHSS 17 Fenelon Falls 25

Unlike their other games where they started slowly, this game the Red Hawks barely put up a fight before scoring their first point

against 10 points by the Falcons. Fatigue and a lack of focus contributed to the insurmountable built lead.

Debbie Ray, a first year senior, started the nine point rally with an awesome display of power and accuracy as she picked the Falcon back court a part. Her efforts weren't enough as the Falcons held on for the win.



Cindy Malloy bumps to a teammate.

Volunteers make ski trails what they are today

Everybody knows what a snow job can do. All those beautiful white flakes accumulating to cover up the messes that we humans leave on the ground. Or the written snow job report consisting of sheets of paper put

together to confuse readers that other human-made messes never occurred. But in the same way that the sun shines on both saints and sinners, so our winter snow falls can cover the evidence that many of our club members (and some non-members) have put in hours and hours of trail clearing and improvement.

I have never ceased to be amazed at volunteers who will willingly set out in rain and sleet to dig trenches for culverts or to cut down sodden brush for the prospect of having themselves or others glide gently by on a firm well-set ski track on a crisp winter day.

I am reminded of a visitor from a non-skiing part of Australia standing in her water-proofs as the rain poured down on herself and other volunteers,

being overheard exclaiming "Isn't this fun!" It can also be fun on a sunny, bug-free day with vibrant fall colours, when we are with a group of friends out in the bush together.

I am writing this as

general praise for volunteers who have worked on ski trails over countless years and are too many in number for me to name. Their combined efforts, together with a lot of work by contracted bulldozer and excavator operators, have given us much of our present trails system. Others have generously donated materials or equipment time, showing that the initial actions by the club volunteers can be enhanced - "If these guys can put in the time, the least I can do is to offer help."

So when you swoop down the smooth hills with snow flying from your skis or cross over a scenic stream well above the water, I ask you to remember that the trail didn't just happen, it was put there, probably by several people.

NORDICNOTES

Peter Brogden



November 2000: Volunteers Robert Sargent and Ted Koehler start removing the wrecked Deer Trail Bridge at the Frost Centre. One sunny morning was all that was needed to rebuild it, again with donated stringers from Peter Schliebenbaum.

Minden curlers sweep up the competition

by Gord Wright

The North Kawartha Senior Men's Tour on December 4 at the Fenelon Falls Curling Club brought the Don Ballantyne rink and the Stan Hill rink in from Minden; the Ken Skelly rink and the Norm Budgen rink in from Bobcaygeon; the Vic Ibbotson

rink and the Ron Barr rink in from Haliburton; the Wayne Worsley rink; and the Dave Lankin rink from Fenelon Falls.

The winners were: 35.25 points were skip Wayne Worsley, vice Lionel Vincent, second Kevin Kerrivan and lead Wally Downham; with 34.75 points skip Don Ballantyne, vice Tom

Macartney, second Joe Larocca and lead Don Pflug. With 22 points skip Stan Hill, vice Andy Boivan, second Todd Grainger and lead Rod Madley; with 21 points skip Norm Budgen, vice Phil Arrowsmith, second Grant Heaphy and lead Keith Harwood.

Book Signing with Steve Galea

Author of

My Outdoors: Humour from the field and stream

Friday the 13th 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Echo Office

(at the corner of Highland and Cedar)

Saturday, December 14 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Minden Times Office

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Words of praise for My Outdoors:

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Meet The Echo's favourite humour columnist, plus Tom Goldsmith, who illustrated this funny new addition to CanLit.

HHSS Basketball briefs

Junior basketball players sink I.E. Weldon with help of 25 point game from Conrad Flatman

Junior Basketball - Home opener
HHSS 53 I.E. Weldon 37

A second quarter seven point run gave the Red Hawks an eight point lead, 22-14, nearly halfway through the quarter. The team built on the lead to go into half-time leading, 30-14. Conrad Flatman led all scorers with seven points in that quarter.

He finished the game with 25 points. Red Hawks won 53-37.

Ryan Bottum scored eight points in the first half and his aggressive play resulted in numerous turnovers.

Senior Basketball - Home opener
HHSS 47 I.E. Weldon 74

The Red Hawks played well until the first quarter, keeping the score close, 9-17. By the second quarter, the I.E. Weldon Wildcats took control, bringing the game to another level that the homeside couldn't match. Half-time ended 18-39.

HHSS guard opened half with a lay-up, bringing the home crowd back into the game. The cheering was short lived as the Wildcats spread the defense out with quick long passes and would finish well ahead, 47-74.

Gord Timbers led Red Hawks scoring with 12 points while Mansfield finished with 10 points.



Darren Lum/TIMES

Andrew Mansfield blows past an I.E. Weldon Wildcat defender in the basketball team's season home opener last week. The Red Hawks weren't able to keep pace with the high-powered Wildcat offence and lost 74-47.

Bantam Storm blows away Bracebridge

by SHARON WALKER
Special to The Times

Minden Arena was rocking Saturday night when the Bantam AE Storm blew away Bracebridge 6-1.

Derek Nesbitt opened the scoring, assisted by Ryan Scheffee and Mackie Campbell. Minutes later Ryan Scheffee scored to give the Storm a two goal lead. James Roberts and Devon Hunter assisted. Storm goaltender Mike Lennox got control of the puck in his end and passed it up to speedy Devon Hunter who deked the socks off the goalie to make it a 3-0. Lennox picked up an assist on the goal.

Sherri Walker scored one of her classic wrap-around goals, assisted by Brittany Hicks and Nesbitt. Walker's second goal of the game was assisted by Nesbitt. Lennox played a great game and stoned the opposition until late in the third when Bracebridge scored its first and only goal.

What a better way to end a game than with a breakaway as Tyler Watson scored a slick goal assisted by defenseman Jon Petch.

The Storm played a solid offensive and defensive game on the way to a 6-1 victory.

Two players stood out for the Storm in the game against Bracebridge - defenseman Jon Petch and forward Ryan Scheffee.

Carnarvon bowling scores

Tuesday Afternoon League (December 3)

High average: Ken Thompson 209; Mona Benn 197

High single: John Pugh 278; Mona Benn 250

High single (handicap): John Pugh 303; Jean Pugh/Mona Benn 272

High triple: Ken Thompson 706; Mona Benn 594

High triple (handicap): Ken Thompson 748; Mona Benn 620

Wednesday Afternoon League (Dec. 4)

High average: Ken Thompson 218; Mona Benn 191

High single: John Pugh 295; Janet McGrath 224

High single (handicap): John Pugh 323; Janet McGrath 298

High triple: John Pugh 735; Jante McGrath 525

High triple (handicap): John Pugh 819; Janet McGrath 797

Thursday afternoon December 5/02

High Average: Ken Thompson, 254; Josie Cheesman, 181

High Single: Ken Thompson, 271; Shirley Webb, 229

High Single (handicap): Bob Webb, 288; Shirley Webb, 274

High Triple: Ken Thompson, 764; Josie Chessman, 543

High Triple (handicap): Merv Bunker, 765; Beverley Alexander, 671

Minden Hills Lanes

Legion 636 Mixed League (December 2)

High average: Bob Vankoughnet 194; Pat Roussel 152

High single: Bob Vankoughnet 260; Pat Roussel 192

High single (handicap): Marcel Roussel 292; Estella Burch 261

High triple: Bob Vankoughnet 637; Pat Roussel 526

High triple (handicap): Marcel Roussel 745; Pat Roussel 706

Thursday Afternoon Seniors' League Nov. 28

High average: Jim Cummings 230; Mona Benn 190

High single: Walter Stegmaier 248; Mona Benn 211

High single (handicap): Bill Stead 292; Julie Clarke 276

High triple: Jim Cummings 657; Mona Benn 581

High triple (handicap): Bill Stead 775; Julie Clarke 707

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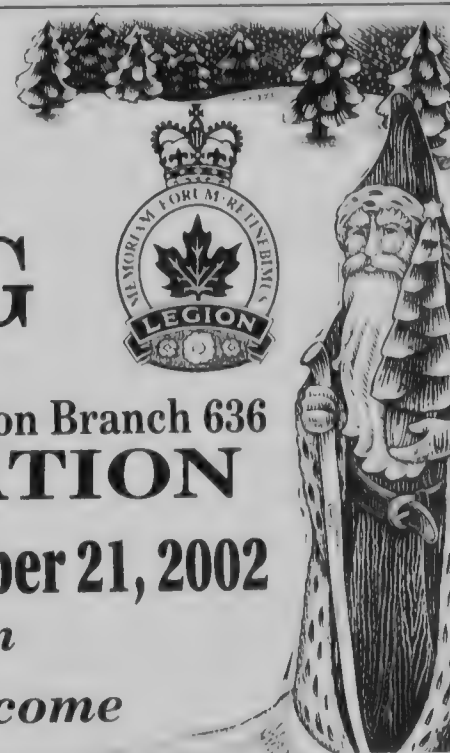
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Junior curlers playing well

by SANDY COLE
Special to The Times

4749 for more information.

Scores for the week of November 18

Monday Night Ladies

Zelda Cooper 9, Linda Eaton 9
Linda Pawluch 7, Melanie Vigrass 5
Pat Woodcroft 8, Nancy Garbutt 4

Tuesday Night Mens

Jim Pollard 6, Ted Wilkes 5
Don Ballantyne 6, Jim Garbutt 6
Al Aubry 5, Rob Eaton 5
Alf Trotter 10, Ed Cyr 2
Peter McNeilage 6, Dan Garbutt 5
Dwight Thomas 9, Bill Roodenburg 5

Thursday Night Mixed

Jack Brezina 10, Jack Taylor 5
Melanie Vigrass 8, Brian Cross 5
Peter McNeilage 11, Sandy Cole 3
Gail Grainger 10, Fred Simmons 3
Ted Wilkes 8, Peter Alexander 7

Friday Night Mixed

Cheryl Murdoch 10, Pat Campbell 1
Dan Garbutt 8, Harvey Kivela 4
Lawrence Loughheed 9, Brian Cross 4
Sandy Cole 8, Paul Prentice 6
Rob Eaton 9, Bill Roodenburg 1
Al Aubry 10, Murray Cooper 6
Jake Walker 10, Linda Pawluch 2
Scores for the week of November 25

Monday Night Ladies

Nancy Garbutt 9, Zelda Cooper 6
Linda Eaton 11, Linda Pawluch 3
Melanie Vigrass 12, Pat Woodcroft 5

Tuesday Night Mens

Ted Wilkes 9, Al Aubry 4
Dan Garbutt 9, Jim Garbutt 5
Peter McNeilage 13, Dwight Thomas 5
Jim Pollard 9, Bill Roodenburg 8
Ed Cyr 8, Don Ballantyne 2
Alf Trotter 10, Rob Eaton 8

Thursday Night Mixed

Sandy Cole won over Jack Taylor
Jim Garbutt 16, Brian Cross
Ted Wilkes 8, Jim Pollard 6
Peter Alexander 13, Jack Brezina 0
Peter McNeilage 4, Fred Simmons ?

Friday Night Mixed

Linda Pawluch 7, Lawrence Loughheed 4
Brian Cross 10, Murray Cooper 7
Rob Eaton 14, Al Aubry 2
Sandy Cole 9, Harvey Kivela 8
Jake Walker 8, Dan Garbutt 7
Paul Prentice 9, Pat Campbell 6

Minden Lanes Bowlers going to provincials

by SCOTT MOORE
Special to The Times

On two separate weekends several members of Minden Hills Lanes competed in the zone finals of the Provincial Bowling Championships. Cathy Snell of Minden, averaging over 220 a game through 20 games won the women's division. Finishing fourth in the women's division averaging over 215 was Michelle Moore.

In the men's division, Scott Moore finished in sixth place averaging over 241. Walt Stegmaier, Norm Goldenberg, Rick West and Jim Cummings also participated in the event with varying degrees of success.

Cathy, Michelle and Scott will be participating in the Provincials, Easter weekend in Hamilton, ON, facing some of the toughest competition in the entire country.

The following are scores from Minden Hills Lanes that were inadvertently missed in previous score reporting. *The Times* apologizes to all bowlers whose names were left out.

Thursday Night Mixed November 26

High Average: Walter Stegmaier, 221; Cathy Snell, 240
High Single: Gord M, 262; Rawn Loughheed, 291
High Single (handicap): Gord M, 276; Rawn Loughheed, 315
High Triple: Gord M, 694; Cathy Snell, 848
High Triple (handicap): Gord M, 736; Cathy Snell, 848

Tuesday Night Mixed November 12

High Average: Rick West, 222; Cathy Snell, 236
High Single: Walter Stegmaier, 275; Cathy Snell, 248
High Single (handicap): Walter Stegmaier, 288; Linda Graham, 294
High Triple: Walter Stegmaier, 228; Cathy Snell, 676

High Triple (handicap): Walter Stegmaier, Linda Graham, 748

Tuesday Night Mixed November 19

High Average: Rick West, 223; Cathy Snell, 238
High Single: Clive Bormanis, 254; Rawn Loughheed, 301
High Single (handicap): Clive Bormanis, 307; Rawn Loughheed, 324
High Triple: Mike Walroth, 667; Cathy Snell, 681
High Triple (handicap): Mike Walroth, 751; Rawn Loughheed, 717
Monday Night Mixed November 4
High Average: Scott Moore, 246; Cathy Snell, 236
High Single: Scott Moore, 244; Michelle Moore, 309
High Single (handicap): Ron Newman, 258; Michelle Moore, 331
High Triple: Scott Moore, 686; Michelle Moore, 791
High Triple (handicap): Ron Newman, 685; Michelle Moore, 858

October 26 UBC Juniors

High Average: Brad Brown, 169; Tori Brown, 177
High Single: Creighton Griffin, 190; Shelby Moore, 168
High Single (handicap): Creighton Griffin, 238; Jessica Austen, 202
High Triple: Creighton Griffin, 515; Shelby Moore, 447
High Triple (handicap): Creighton Griffin, 686; Nicole Lyddiatt, 639

UBC Seniors October 26

Dennis Cox, 17, rolls a 400 single. (A perfect game is 450).
High Average: Matt Rienwald, 227; Kelly Berry, 196
High Single: Dennis Cox, 400; Alyssa Crowe, 310
High Single (handicap): Dennis Cox, 400; Emily Austen, 203
High Triple: Dennis Cox, 797; Kelly Berry, 546
High Triple (handicap): Dennis Cox, 797; Lesley Cox, 548

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from page 1

Eisenburg says with 4.1 million properties to assess every year, about 800,000 properties a year are visited - the top priority going to those properties that show up in MPAC's system because of filed building permits. "We rely heavily on building permits. It could happen that there is construction that goes unassessed. I'm not aware of a specific problem in Haliburton County."

Gerald Bain is. Bain is Algonquin Highlands' municipal clerk and confirmed, along with other local representatives, that there is a problem with building improvements happening under the radar. There's also a backlog in the assessment of new construction.

"We're requesting through MPAC's union for an improvement in the level of service. We want to see a return to the level of service 18 months ago," says Bain.

He is referring to the time before MPAC went through an extensive internal restructuring process. It reduced the number of field assessment officers in regional offices.

Valerie Jones, MPAC municipal account manager, says restructuring made the system more effective by creating experts in areas such as mines, malls or industrial assessment. She added that creating a consumer call centre for general inquiries also freed the assessors in the field offices or "customer service representatives" from answering the phone. This gives them more time to get out and investigate properties.

Jones said they have fewer people with more specific job descriptions allowing them to do more. She says that

when an assessor arrives at a property they compare the information they have to what they see and if there are no significant changes they don't request to go inside.

"A lot of people say 'no one has ever been to my house' but that's often not the case. If there is an area of concern we'll also do a complete inspection of a street or area," says Jones.

She added, though, that when it comes to property improvements that have occurred without permits it is not MPAC's job to find those properties. That job, she says, falls to a municipality's bylaw enforcement officer.

Wells says neither MPAC nor municipalities are actively seeking to rectify the flaws in the assessment system.

Wells didn't have much luck trying to correct the flaws in his assessment either. "You can only get a detailed property assessment if you request it. They don't just send them out automatically because they know they're wrong."

He was surprised by several items on his detailed assessment - once he jumped through a few hoops and waited six weeks or more to get it. The square footage of the site was incorrectly high but he was told the difference would not affect his assessment.

His waterfront was also listed as "good" when it consists of weed and muck and he cannot even put a dock in. His property was listed as having three "buildings" because the well and septic system counted as "buildings."

When he did discuss these factors with MPAC officials they refused to make changes, re-examine his waterfront or give him a written confirmation of the discussion. He also asked for comparables and discovered they were quite different from his own property; some were in different municipalities entirely.

"I wouldn't mind the increase if the information was accurate. It's knowing there is garbage in the system (incorrect and missing information) that bothers me," says Wells. "My message to the municipalities is don't take extra money because you can (in taxes)."

Peter Oyler, Minden Hills councillor and Lake Kashagawigamog Organization president, says he can certainly see both side of the issues. Council, he says, does have a few options about what they can do.

He explained council could be revenue neutral and not use higher assessments as an opportunity to take in more revenue. They could also reduce the overall tax rate for a particular class or properties or phase in payments giving people more time to pay the increases.

Municipalities will not be making decisions until they examine tax rolls, which are delivered on December 17.

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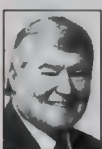
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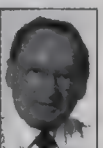
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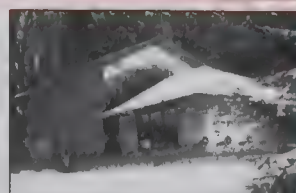
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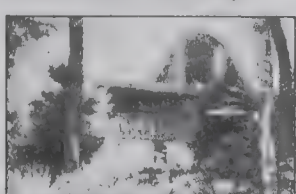
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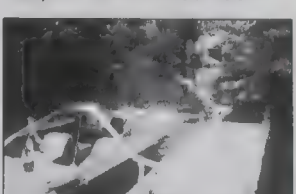
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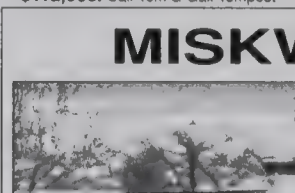
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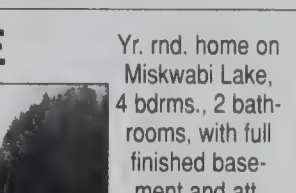
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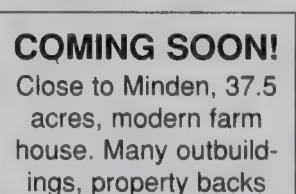
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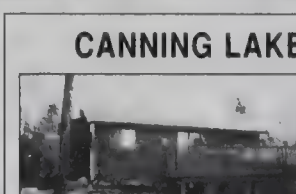
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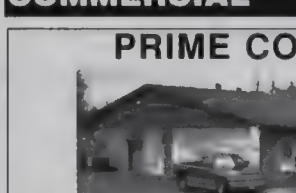
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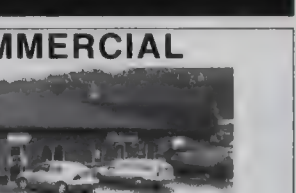
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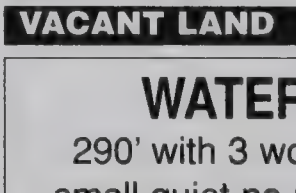


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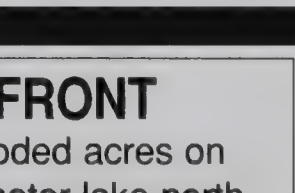


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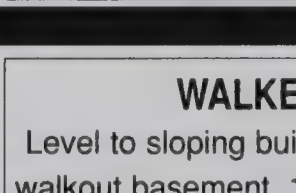


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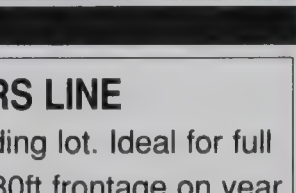
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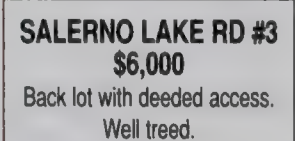
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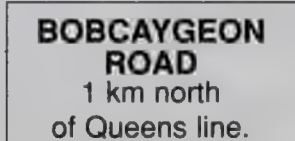
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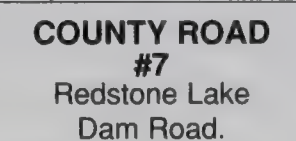
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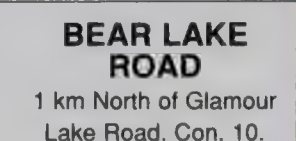
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An old house gets new life

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

The old house in the Minden Business Park which will soon be the home of Campbells Garden Centre and Flower Shop has a lot of history within its walls. But it isn't giving up that history.

The house is so old that the municipality's records don't go back far enough to reveal the original builder or the year it was constructed. The Registry Office doesn't keep track of when buildings were constructed. It only has records of who owned the property and when it changed hands.

The earliest resident of the house The Times was able to track down is Carrie Vasey (Gartshore). "I was six months old when my family moved there in 1914," she said. Her parents bought the house from the Frank Wilson family. As near as anyone can tell, the Wilsons were the original owners of the house. But nobody has been able to come up with the date of construction. Speculation is that the house was built before 1900 but how long before is unknown.

Dick Kirkwood, an elder of the community, remembers helping put the metal roof on the house. "It was in the spring of 1924 or 25," he said. "I helped Art Puffer put it on."

There has been some speculation that the house was built from bricks made at the old Minden Brick Works. But Kirkwood believes the bricks were drawn, probably by horse and wagon, from the train station in Gelert.

Jerry Campbell, who is overseeing the renovations for his sister Anne Neave, owner of Campbell's Garden Centre and Flower Shop, concurs. When the brick work was being repaired, one of the bricks was removed and the marking indicated it was made in Lindsay.

Kirkwood said there used to be a 30-foot dug well with a stone lining on the property. "I used to go down to the bottom off the well and clean it out every summer when it dried up and get it ready for the winter," he said.

Verne Gartshore lived the first eight years of his life, beginning in 1939, with his grandparents in the house. He's happy to know the house is being restored and



Speculation is that Mrs. Frank Wilson (above) and her husband built the old house on Highway 35, but no one knows for certain. This photo was likely taken in the early 1900s and was loaned to *The Times* by Anne Neave.

will see use again.

"It's the same now as it was when I lived there," Gartshore said.

The barn, an implement shed, an ice house and a woodshed are gone, but the house hasn't changed in 60-plus years. The barn, which was a local landmark, was torn down a few years ago. It has been the subject of many artists' works and was probably the most photographed building

on the Highway 35 corridor.

Over the years the house changed hands several times. Among the owners were the Wilsons, a couple of Gartshore families, Walkers, and the last tenant/owner was a Mrs. White. Prior to White's ownership, three local men bought it as an investment. They were Don Finn, Sinc Nesbitt and Gary Vasey.

Wendy Bartlett, Sinc Nesbitt's daughter,

said her father tried to buy the property back from White, but she wouldn't sell it. Eventually, the house and land became the property of the municipality after it had been abandoned.

After many months of negotiation, Anne Neave took over ownership of the property on June 4 of this year. Renovations got under way on July 1. Three of Neave's nephews, Jordan and Zach Joanu and Judd Campbell, were employed for the summer working on the renovations. They helped Brian Sisson gut the interior and dug around the foundation.

Although it was hoped that the stripping of the interior walls might reveal some of the history of the building, the only evidence of anyone living there was a single board with the name "Gartshore" on it. There were no old newspapers or anything else to reveal clues of the house's history.

There was no insulation in the house, except for two half batts that had been stuffed under one window. Heat, in the early days, was provided by a wood cook stove and box stoves.

Neave said the renovations, other than the addition of some insulation, will remain as close to the original structure as possible. She plans to leave one wall of the ground floor interior in a natural state, with lath and plaster exposed.

"We'll just put a coat of lacquer on it and use it for a display wall," Neave said.

The windows will remain original, but will be re-glazed and screens will be added to allow air circulation in the warmer months.

Graham Neave, Anne's son, said the interior framework of the house is all rough-cut hemlock, including the floors. "There is one board that's two and a half feet wide," he said.

When it is completed, the flower shop and garden centre will occupy both the ground floor and the upstairs portion of the house.

Neave had hoped to be moved into the renovated building by this month, but those plans have been delayed. She now has her sights set on early spring of 2003.

If anyone has information that confirms the year the house was built, please contact *The Times* by telephone at 286-1288; by e-mail at editor@mindentimes.on.ca; by fax at 286-4768 or via Canada Post at Box 97, Minden, ON, K0M 2K0.



Jack Higginson painted these two pictures of the old house for Anne Neave.

Gord Monk honoured at HHHS open house

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

A Community Open House was held recently by the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation at Hyland Crest. The evening was a fund-raiser and an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past several months.

"This night wouldn't be possible without the Auxiliary," said Dale Walker, Executive Director of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. "Not only are they great ladies to bake, but they also operate the gift shop and do several things around the facility, helping with the residents, so we thank them for that."

HHHS Board Chair Jack Brezina welcomed everyone to the facility on behalf of the board and CEO Keith Sansford. Brezina said he was pleased to see the total money collected toward the community's share of the cost of renovations to the new facilities top the \$5-million mark.

Foundation Chair Jack Woodcroft thanked everyone for supporting the cause in the past and hoped that support would

continue in the future.

He noted that although the \$5-million mark had been achieved, "the last little hurdle seems to be the hardest to overcome. "Whenever you think of our hospital, think of it not being paid off," he said.

Woodcroft presented Brezina with a \$15,000 cheque toward the capital costs. The money was from the Foundation's Christmas Mail-In Campaign.

Woodcroft also had another presentation

to make before the evening was over.

"Tonight is a very special night for me," Woodcroft said. "It gives me the opportunity to recognize an individual who has been part of the Health Services and the community for a long period of time."

Woodcroft called on Gord Monk to receive a plaque in recognition of his service and support.

Accepting the plaque, Monk said the gesture was unnecessary, although he appreciated it very much.

"I feel very strongly that we have two

excellent facilities, one here and one in Haliburton and it's been a pleasure to have been able to be a part of getting the debt paid off." Monk said everyone has been supportive.

"Hopefully, people won't turn around and go the other way when they see me coming," he quipped. "They'll know I won't have my hand in their pockets any more."

The evening also featured a bake sale, a raffle and a visit from St. Nick. Michael Barnes was on hand to sign copies of his book, *The Essential Haliburton*.

Jerry Grozelle/TIMES



Former Foundation Chair Gord Monk, Foundation Chair Jack Woodcroft, Councillor Peter Oyler, HHHS Executive Director Dale Walker, Reeve Ross Rigney and HHHS Board Chair Jack Brezina, all made appearances at the open house recently.

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Airport may become county responsibility

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the November 27 meeting of county council.

The Stanhope Airport could become a county-wide responsibility as early as January 2004.

Warden Eleanor Harrison asked council for a letter of support in principle for the airport changing hands.

"We obviously still need to work through the details," she said. "We can negotiate the future maintenance for the 2004 calendar year later. We have all of 2003 to determine how this will work in 2004."

Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney suggested that the county might want to do a study in 2003 to determine the relationship it would pursue with the airport.

The Stanhope Airport is the county's only airport.

Airport Manager John Packer made a short presentation to county council to discuss operations of the airport, and some of the projects it is currently involved with - including the proposed development of a new runway.

Councillor provided a letter of support in principle to the airport.

Warden's Opening Remarks

At her last official council meeting as chair, Warden Eleanor Harrison thanked members of county council for "a great year."

"Being warden is a great honour...It's certainly a different perspective from the Warden's chair," Harrison said during her brief remarks.

Harrison encouraged the next Warden to ensure that difficult decisions are made, specifically referring to the county's commitment to waste and recycling issues.

"I hope that 10 years from now council won't be dealing with the same issues at the table," she said.

The inaugural will be held December 17 and the next county council meeting is December 18.

Legion taxes

Royal Canadian Legions in Haliburton County will not be required to pay the county portion of their property taxes for the next 10 years.

County council has agreed to pass a bylaw providing a

tax rebate to all four Legions in the county. Section 442.1 of the Municipal Act allows municipalities to provide tax rebates to charitable organizations, for a period that can last up to 10 years. Municipalities can determine which of these properties are eligible for a tax rebate.

"We should do for the for the full 10 years," said Dysart et al Murray Fearrey, "unless someone else has the nerve to change it."

It is the responsibility of individual municipalities to pass a bylaw to exempt the Legions from the municipal portions of taxes.

The bylaw will be in place starting in 2003.

Name Change

The county approved a name change for a local organization.

Formerly known as Haliburton County Association for Community Living, will now be known as Community Living Haliburton County.

911

There are still 558 roads to name in Haliburton County, as the 911 projects works quickly to meet its looming July 2004 deadline.

The next meeting is January 23, when all municipal road naming committees will indicate what name they wish to apply to each unnamed road, said Stephen Foster, 911 project co-ordinator.

In a report to council, Foster said that the chairs of the committees met twice to accept or reject names submitted by the public, using a predetermined protocol.

"At the end of the marathon session, we had found acceptable names for 199 or 71 per cent of the roads with submissions," he said.

Each municipal committee has been provided with lists of newly accepted names along with maps identifying the remaining roads with rejected names and those never named. The have also been given a list of 600 pre-approved road name, Foster said.

Chamber of Commerce

The Haliburton County Chamber of Commerce will get all the funding it asked for.

The Chamber asked for \$150,000 at the outset of the year as a fee for service for marketing the county, but the county held back \$50,000 to give it time to conduct a review of the chamber's board of executives.

"March 31 is year end for the county and they need to know if they will have the funds for their final quarter," CAO Gary King said.

The Chamber has had a few rough patches this year, after the contract for its general manager was not renewed and it ran into financial difficulties.

Councillors from Highlands East asked for a recorded vote. Reeve Keith Tallman and Deputy-reeve Chuck Viner voted against council authorizing the payment of \$50,000 to the chamber.

Environment Committee

Letters of appreciation will be presented to committee members on the former County Advisory Committee of the Environment, as well as the Marketing and Economic Diversification Committee, on behalf of council.

Heather Ross, the interim chair of the environment committee, wrote a letter to council requesting that the former chair, Carolyn Cobourn, be recognized for her contribution to the environment and to the committee.

Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis said he has no problem with recognizing the committee. "They have done good things," he said. "I think we should thank all committee members, not just the chair. We should extend it to all members of both committees."

Councillor Don Shortreed, who served on the environment committee as the representative of the county, said he fully agreed with the idea to recognize both committees.

He said he takes full responsibility for the breakdown in communication between CACE and council.

"The committee tried to do the best they could and so did I," Shortreed said. "They dedicated their Saturdays to the environment and I think we should give them a special thanks."

Warden Eleanor Harrison thanked Shortreed for his comments.

"The committee just got away on us for a while," Harrison said, "I appreciate that you felt you were partially to blame, but it's not any more your fault than the rest of our faults."

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Harry Potter scarf winds up in Kinmount



AROUND THE TOWN

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Until now the farmhouse has been safe from the Harry Potter frenzy. Bruce and I did end up watching the first movie, not by choice but as part of a "captive audience" aboard an Air Canada flight home from Vancouver. To be truthful the special effects were awesome. This week a small voice called with a special request. It was our six year-old Harry Potter "wannabe," also known as Austin Owens, reporting that he was scarf-less. Although scarves are apparently the current hot fashion ticket there were none to be found in Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry in Gryffindor colours. Could grandma please knit him one? Off to Minden and, once again, the "V&S" came through. Our weekend visit will include a special delivery for Austin. I can't wait to see him muffled up in 60 inches of rich burgundy and mustard-gold stripes sporting mitts to match. It was great fun. Thanks Harry.

Once again the Kinmount Committee for Planning and Economic Development's dedicated volunteers are to be congratulated on bringing the Christmas touch to our Town with garlands, bright red bows and lighted trees. The two creches at St. Patrick's and on Main Street continue to remind those passing by of the very first Christmas with its spirit of giving reflected in the Lions Club Angel Trees and Food Drive boxes.

Thanks to Jeanne Anthon for the following update. The Haliburton Highlands Concert Series will again present outstanding world class artists at the Northern Lights Pavilion in 2003. Performance dates have not been finalized as these dates are dependent on artists' travel schedules. Performances will begin in early spring and each subscriber will be contacted by phone. Christmas gift certificates for the series are available by calling 457-9731.

For that unique locally handcrafted gift a reminder that the Kinmount Artisans Marketplace is open Fridays

through Mondays and daily the week before Christmas. The Marketplace is located in the lower level of the Kinmount Community Centre. If your family or group is looking for a place to host your special event, the Centre is available for bookings by calling Max at 488-2801.

Now for the Scoring News along with your usual reminder to keep busy and well.

Thursday, November 28 euchre at the Minden Legion Branch 636: For most lone hands it was Verna McDonald and Todd Edgson taking top spot. Debbie Fisher and Norm Lee held the high scores for ladies/men, while Esther Lee and Paul Dawson took the lows. Other prizes went to Bill Van Dyke, Kevin Maloney, Esther Lee and Paul Dawson.

Thursday, November 28 duplicate bridge at the Fish Hatchery, Haliburton: Ev Morgan and Don Mills were first With 60%, while second place went to the duo of Reet Murray and Bill Sandford at 54%.

Friday, November 29 bid euchre at Club 35, Halls Lake: Single moonshots landed on Alvin Cowan, Sharon Evans, Garth Windsor and Alf Helleman, while Rob Evans had two. For the pinks, Jean Scadden was first with 279, then Mary Pearson 253 and Marj Cowan third at 251. Pat Scadden led the white card holders with 285, while Alvin Cowan and Garth Windsor tied for second at 265 and Alf Helleman 253 took third. The hidden score went to Alf Whyman.

Friday, November 29 duplicate bridge at Echo Hills, Haliburton: North/south winners were Jim Aikman and Glen Lockhart 68%, with Muriel and Doug McIntosh next at 53%. For east/west it was Maria and Nick Lehoczky 67%, then Reet Murray and Bill Sandford 58%.

Saturday, November 30 bid euchre at Staanworth Terrace, Minden: Ruth Kellett reports a great turnout with a special welcome back to Iris Taylor, who took both

second place with 284 and one of the moonshots. In top spot was Pearl Cowen 291, with June Branning, Pat Scadden and Kevin Maloney all discovering hidden scores. Pearl Cowen also had a moonshot along with Milton Fletcher.

Monday, December 2 euchre at Staanworth Terrace, Minden: Idella Gault reports that it was Pearl Cowen holding the most lone hands and taking home the special prize. Martha Harding recorded the high score and Beulah Hewitt had the low score.

Monday, December 2 euchre at Club 35, Halls Lake: Lone hand honours went to Grace Berardi, with Mary Pearson and Bob McConnell leading the scores for ladies/men. Verna Sawyer and Andy Boivin were low lady/man while the baloney went to Murray Daniels.

Monday, December 2 euchre at the Friendship Club, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Minden: It was a family affair in the most lone hands department with Gladys and Carl Nesbitt the winners. For high lady/man it was Pearl Cowen and Wayne Jones, while Barb Braithwaite and Dean Chambers recorded the lows. Reporter Katie Parker held the hidden score. Special draw winners Fern Donnelly and Gwen Cox consoled Gladys Nesbitt after her visit from the little black and white critter. Katie reminds everyone that December birthdays will be celebrated on December 16 and that there will be no euchre on December 23.

Monday, December 2 cribbage at the Minden Legion Branch 636: Maxine Cross reports that Esther Lee was first with Gwen Cox second. The draw prizes went to Esther Lee, Joe Rivers and Verna McDonald.

Monday, December 2 Kinmount Seniors bid euchre at the Kinmount Legion Branch 441: In first was Jean Scadden, with Ruth Kellett coming second. In the moon-

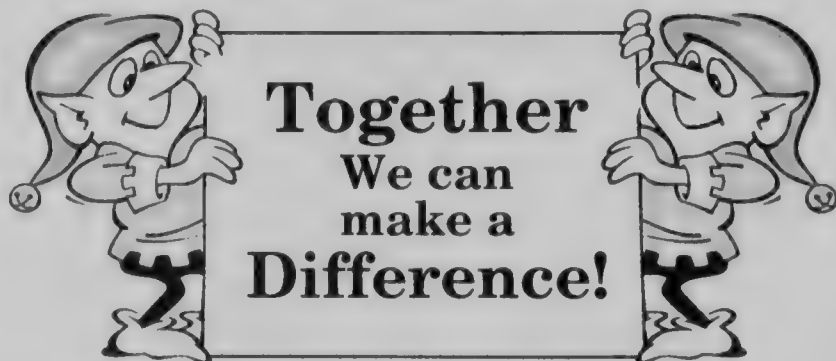
see DON'T page 25

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Don't dicker with Betty's game

from page 24

shot department Jim Corbett took a single, while Pat Scadden doubled. Isabel Cherwenka and Marjorie Paradis won the regular draws, while Eileen Shepstone and Pat Scadden took home the special draw prizes.

Tuesday, December 3 bid euchre at the Minden Legion Branch 636: Making up the top scoring trio were Sharon Evans, Elli Langpohl and Rob Evans, while Milton Fletcher, Norm Lee and Lynda Jones uncovered the hidden scores. Moonshots landed on Pat Scadden, Georgina Parkes, Gala Stamp, Lynda Jones and Milton Fletcher.

Tuesday, December 3 Stanhope Fire Hall Senior Social Club Mixed Shuffleboard: In the lead was the duo of Syd Lockhart and Barbara Gamble 341, followed by George Hamilton and Belle Walker 276, then Shirley

Alderton and Pearl Cowan 263. Low score holders Marj Hamilton and Moe Briscoe (112) joined everyone in wishing Shirley Alderton a very Happy Birthday.

Tuesday, December 3 contract bridge at Stanhope: Topping the charts was Betty Dicker 5930 followed by Wynne Hansen 5040, Harold Cox 4630 and Ev Morgan 4510. Muriel McIntosh won the special draw while Betty Dicker received the "DDWM" Award agreeing you "Don't Dicker With Me."

Tuesday, December 3 euchre at the Lochlin Community Centre: It was the Curry family in the spotlight with Betty and Don taking the high scores for the evening, with Don Hicks and Joyce Schellenberg recording the lows. Joyce also won a special draw prize, while Lorna Hicks held the most lone hands.

Wednesday, December 4 duplicate bridge at Park Lane, Haliburton: Leading in north/south with 62% was the team of Muriel McIntosh and Ross Fletcher, followed closely by Norma Crewson partnered with Gladys Fajar 61%. In east/west it was Ev and Fred Vanderland with 59% in first, then Jacqueline and Kelly Metcalf 56%.

Wednesday, December 4 bid euchre at Stanhope: Moonshot quartet members were Norm Lee, Rob Evans, Chris Clarke and Bob McConnell. Top spot for the pinks went to Jean Scadden 289, then June Branning 273 and Sharon Evans 267. Paul Poulton's 286 led for the white cards, with Tom Pearson next at 273 and Pat Scadden 251 third. Gala Stamp reminds that next week on December 11 the Christmas Dinner will be held at 6 p.m., with cards to follow at 7 o'clock. All you need to bring is your best smile.

WI gets message from palace

The members of the Minden Women's Institute met in the common room at Agnes Jamieson Gallery for its monthly meeting. President Rita Baird opened the meeting and read out a thank-you note from Queen Elizabeth's lady in Waiting for the card we sent her last month. Sixteen members and one visitor took part in the roll call, telling about their first jobs to earn money.

The Institute's officers gave their reports and the current events were given, with happenings for the months of August, September and October.

Pamela Rolfe, Convener of Citizenship, Culture and community, presented a paper on immigration to western Canada. Chinese immigrants landed in 1788 and that community has grown to 920,000 people. It was also estimated that 100,000 British "home children" arrived between 1870 and 1948.

Arrangements were made for the Institute to serve food at the Minden Arena on December 7 and 8 during the craft sale. We then had an auction of crafts and baked goods prepared by members.

The meeting closed with the Women's Institute Grace and lunch.

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Festive decorations make holidays come alive

Hi everyone, well it's been two weeks since our last news report so we have plenty to catch up on. We'll start back at November 21, that's when we had the pleasure of enjoying the antics of the Sage Age Players. This group hails from Peterborough and what talented and comical people they are. The group was formed in 1977 of seniors dedicated to promoting wellness among other seniors. With a unique style of improv-comedy the people of the group have devised an excellent way of delivering their message. The Peterborough County-City Health Unit sponsors them and we thank them for a great day of entertainment and to the VON Day Care for sharing the day with us and for their hospitality.

Saturday, a memorial service was held for Peggy Packer, we thank Barb Trocowicz for a lovely service and Joy Bain for her beautiful organ music.

The Norland Hillbillies were in over the weekend to keep us entertained. We always enjoy their music and time spent with us.

It has been a busy time with Christmas decorating. Our home is graced with beautiful Christmas trees and many festive decorations, which has put everyone in the Christmas spirit. The staff members have also been busy decorating various doors, helping to make things look wonderful for Christmas. Thanks to volunteers Ruth Hamilton, Sandra Beaton, Lois Smith, Mickey Kalm and Marg Foster and staff for decorating and spreading Christmas cheer throughout our home.

Rev. Warburton held Chapel Service on Tuesday and, with the help of Sheila Corp, we all enjoyed this spiritually uplifting sermon. Joy Bain has been coming in with her beaming personality and beautiful music. She has quickly become a favourite in our hearts.

The members of the Gang were here on November 27th and delightfully entertained us at Pub Night. They along with Pearl, Don and Marg made for a great time. Something special happened that night, Santa paid us a surprise visit, so we really had reason to celebrate.

On November 28 we celebrated our November Birthdays at our Birthday Tea, hosted by the Minden Legion. Congratulations to all and thanks to this group for many delightful treats.

Friday we were delighted to have the Salvation Army Band here for the evening. Thank you to these caring people who do so much to enrich peoples lives.

Saturday is bingo and the residents do look forward to this main event. This week Alice Sedgewick was our lucky jackpot winner. Our bingo players all want to say thank you to Pearl Cowan our bingo caller and Maxine Snell for helping out wherever she can.

Sunday our Hymn Sing was well attended and many melodious voices could be heard throughout. Muriel Welch, Nina Prentice, Hilda Gillespie, Bea Britain and many others enjoy this uplifting spiritual time.

Barbara Trocowicz led service that afternoon. We look forward to her teaching. With it she always brings a smile or a chuckle with her. Our thanks to Lorraine Campbell for playing the organ for our service.

Pastor Ashley Taylor performed service Tuesday, which included a memorial for Rene McGoldrick. Our condolences to family and friends.

Wednesday evening the Country Hot Flashes entertained us for Pub Night. What

a great group of talented and fun people!

For the past two weeks Dottie and her crafters have been busy making Christmas place mats and serviette holders for the residents to brighten up their tables with a bit of Christmas cheer. Thanks Dottie for all the hard work and ideas and also to Brenda for her help and the "treats" you brought in were delicious!

Well here we are today December 5. Today we are celebrating our birthdays for December at Birthday Tea. We usually have this at the end of each month, but with all that's going to be happening, we

didn't want to miss wishing our guys and gals the very best so were celebrating early. Happy Birthday goes out to Lilian Millar, Hazel Gregory, Mildred Gartshore, Hazel Whittaker, Nelson Leclair and Betty Emslie.

We are saddened by the passing of Margaret Leclair, our condolences to Nelson, who is a resident, and to family and friends.

There are many events planned for December. A Christmas Journey, Carol Singing and Family Christmas are just a few, so we'll be kept busy and in the spirit of Christmas.

Until next time, keep safe, get your Christmas shopping done - only 15 more days left and counting...



Environmental Review Tribunal Tribunal de l'environnement

Case Nos.: 02-160/02-161/02-162

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION AND PRELIMINARY HEARING

In the matter of three appeals by Kandalore Camp Company Limited, Onondaga Camp Inc. (Girl's Side) and Onondaga Camp Inc. (Boy's Side) filed October 11, 2002 for a hearing before the Environmental Review Tribunal pursuant to Section 100 of the *Ontario Water Resources Act* with respect to Certificates of Approval issued by the Director, Ministry of the Environment, under Section 52 of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, regarding construction of a surface water treatment and supply system serving: Camp Kandalore, a children's outdoor facility (Certificate of Approval No. 6307-5BHPBV); Onondaga Camp - Girl's Side (Certificate of Approval No. 3023-5CBHH8); and Onondaga Camp - Boy's Side, (Certificate of Approval No. 0156-5DXNL9) located at Minden, Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, Ontario.

The Ministry of the Environment issued, under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, new Certificates of Approval to operate municipal water works across the Province.

The purpose of this hearing is to enable the Tribunal to determine whether it shall confirm, alter or revoke the Director's Certificates of Approval issued for the sites noted above.

Public Information Meeting:

In order to advise the public of its hearing process, the Environmental Review Tribunal is conducting Public Information Meetings at various locations across the Province.

A member of the Tribunal's staff will conduct a Public Information Meeting on **Tuesday, January 7, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Council Chambers, The County of Haliburton Administration Building, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario. The purpose of this Public Information Meeting will be to provide groups or individuals with information on the hearing process and the different ways in which they can participate in the Hearing; to identify groups or individuals who wish to participate in the Hearing; to provide an opportunity for those with similar interests to discuss their issues and concerns amongst themselves to see if an umbrella group could be formed to represent their common interests at the Hearing; to compile a list of potential Parties, Participants and Presenters; and to answer any other questions the public may have. At this session, staff will not hear any evidence and are not empowered to make decisions or rulings related to the issues of the case.

Preliminary Hearing:

A Preliminary Hearing (which will form part of the Hearing) will be held **Tuesday, January 7, 2003, immediately following the Public Information Session** in the Council Chambers, The County of Haliburton Administration Building, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario, and will be conducted by a member of the Tribunal. The purpose of the Preliminary Hearing will be to receive submissions from groups and individuals who are seeking Party or Participant status and to rule thereon; to identify the preliminary issues to be considered at the main Hearing; to establish the pre-hearing process (information and document exchange, meetings of Parties and their legal and technical representatives, scoping of issues, planning of the main Hearing); to deal with any other preliminary matters that may be raised by Participants and Parties; establish dates for the main Hearing and to finalize and issue Procedural Directions. **The Tribunal has selected a central location for conducting preliminary hearings for several appeals in your general area; however, the main hearing will held in the municipality where the water works is located.**

How You Can Participate:

Groups or individuals interested in participating in the Hearing may express either their private concerns/views or their concerns/views regarding the public interest. They may participate as either a Presenter, Participant or Party. A Presenter may make a statement to the Tribunal, either orally or in writing. A Participant may make a statement to the Tribunal, either orally and/or in writing, may receive copies of all documents relied upon by the Parties, and attend site visits. Normally a Participant is expected to attend every day of the Hearing. A Party assumes the rights and responsibilities of this fullest form of involvement in the hearing process. Parties are usually represented at the Hearing by legal counsel or an agent. The Tribunal will consider requests for Party and Participant status at the Preliminary Hearing. **Anyone who wishes to participate in the Hearing should attend the Public Information Meeting and the Preliminary Hearing.**

Important:

Any person who wishes to participate in the Hearing as a Party or Participant **must** notify the Tribunal Secretary in writing (or electronically) by **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24, 2002**. Contact the Tribunal Secretary for further details. Additional information about the Tribunal and its process can be obtained from the Tribunal's website at www.ert.gov.on.ca.

There will be no court reporting services provided by the Tribunal for the hearing. If Parties consider that they require a transcript of the proceedings they may, with the Tribunal's approval, obtain such service at their own expense.

If you require the assistance of a French language interpreter, or any other assistance, please advise the Tribunal Secretary as soon as you receive this notice, and the Tribunal will attempt to accommodate your needs.

TAKE NOTICE that this hearing date is **peremptory** to all Parties. If you do not attend at this hearing and identify yourself to the Tribunal, the Environmental Review Tribunal may proceed in your absence and you may not receive any further notice in these proceedings.

DATED at TORONTO, this 30th day of October, 2002.

Susan E. Dunn
Tribunal Secretary

Information Contact: (collect calls are accepted)

Susan E. Dunn, Tribunal Secretary
Environmental Review Tribunal
2300 Yonge Street, 12th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Tel: 416-314-4600
Fax: 416-314-4506
Tribunal website: www.ert.gov.on.ca
E-mail: ERTTribunalSecretary@oeb.gov.on.ca

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\$60.00

Regular Games

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Earlybird Game 7:00 pm

Regular Game 7:15 pm

51 Numbers & Over

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BINGO

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MUST GO EVERY WEEK

DON'T FORGET

Minden Lions Christmas Bingo

DECEMBER 19TH, 2002

286-3167

Main Street • Minden

for Christmas Gifts

RIVERVIEW

THINK

The snow is starting to arrive.
The Winter Guide will be here soon.

Hometown Christmas Weekly Draw

Mary Harris **\$50.00** **Winner**

CAREER

PUBLIC HEALTH DIETITIAN

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit requires a full-time Public Health Dietitian for its Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention programs in the City of Kawartha Lakes for a period of one year beginning January 2003.

The successful candidate will develop, implement and evaluate food and nutrition education programs. They will provide food and nutrition information and advisory service to the public, health unit staff, community leaders, media and other health professionals.

The successful candidates will have:

- a baccalaureate degree from a recognized university program in foods and nutrition and
- registration with the College of Dietitians of Ontario
- experience in community health
- excellent skills in education, counselling, oral and written communication
- strong organizational, interpersonal skills
- ability to work independently as well as with a multi-disciplinary team and with community groups
- basic computer skills in a Windows-based environment (Wordperfect as a minimum)
- valid driver's license and access to a vehicle for work

Location: Lindsay

Salary Range: \$49,985-54,955 (2003)

Start Date: January, 2003

Qualified applicants should reply in writing no later than **December 20, 2002** to:

Leslie Orpana

Director, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
200 Rose Glen Road
Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3V6
Phone: (905) 885-9100, ext. 221 Fax: (905) 885-9551
E-mail: leslieo@hkpr.on.ca



Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District
Health Unit

We would like to thank all applicants in advance and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. All information is collected solely for the purpose of job selection under the provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

what's happening in the Highlands

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• **Weight!! TOPS** - Take off pounds sensibly. Lose those excess pounds. Tops is non profit, affordable weight loss organization promoting sensible eating. For local chapter information call Lynn 705-696-3582

• **Join the Walking Club**, week day morning walks sponsored by the Haliburton Chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation. In Minden, people can walk from 7:30 - 8:15 a.m. at Archie Stouffer Elementary School. For more info. call Morris Duff at 286-6079.

• **The Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., in the Fireside lounge at the Hyland Crest Senior Citizen's Home in Minden. All men and the women who love them are welcome. For info., please call Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699 or email: leacliff@sympatico.ca.

• **ONTARIO BREAST SCREENING PROGRAM** for women 50 years and over, screening on Thursdays and Fridays at Ross Memorial Hospital. No doctor referral necessary. Call Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for an appointment. 705-328-6175

• **Urgent Need of Respite Volunteers?** Haliburton County Home Support Services is in urgent need of Respite Volunteers for the Minden area. We are looking for volunteers who would be able to give a couple of hours a week to sit, read or chat over a cup of tea with a client, while their caregiver gets a much needed break. Do you want to make a difference in someone's life? We are looking for you! Call 457-2941 for more information.

• **Guided Meditation** Sunday evenings from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Trinity Centre located at The Hair Lounge in Carnarvon.

• **Volunteers Needed** for local mediation service. Help foster conflict resolution in your community. Free training is provided for all volunteer mediators. For more detailed information, please call 457-3499 extension 608.

• **December 2-12:** Christmas Craft Sale at C.H.A.C.E. Resource Centre in Minden during regular hours. Lots of small items for \$2 or less for children to purchase as gifts, and we will wrap for free. Donations appreciated. Call 286-1770 for more information.

• **December 9 & 10:** The children will be making claypot snowmen or bells at C.H.A.C.E. Resource Centre Minden. There will be a small material fee. Call 286-1770 to sign up.

• **December 10:** The Alzheimer Society of Victoria County is inviting all family caregivers and their loved ones throughout the City of Kawartha Lakes to take part in their afternoon of tea and chat. The social event will take place in the offices at 55 Mary St. W. Suite #201 in the Gateway Plaza from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please RSVP by December 6, 2002 at 878-0126.

• **December 11:** An Old Fashioned Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long. Lochlin United Church at 7:30 p.m. Church Rd. off County Rd. #1. Music by Rev. Harry Morgan, Tom McMullen, John Menzies. Join us for singing, hot cider and Christmas goodies. Please bring donations for Food Banks.

• **December 12:** Christmas Community Kitchen 9 a.m., Jr. Volleyball 5:30 p.m., Adult Volleyball 6:30 p.m. at the Dorset Recreation Centre. Call (705)766-9968.

• **December 12:** Christmas Open House at Haliburton County Home Support. Everyone welcome. Come between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Home Support is planning a fun filled afternoon with homemade goodies and refreshments. Bring some loose change we are having a bake and tag sale as well. We hope to see you at Home Support in the Halco Plaza.

• **December 13:** Join Home Support's Wheels to Meals program at Bolger's Fine Dining Restaurant in Harcourt. Please call Ida to make your reservations or for more information. 457-2941.

• **December 14:** Music by Muskoka Men of Song 7:30 p.m. at the Dorset Recreation Centre. Call (705)766-9968.

• **December 15:** The annual Kinmount Santa Claus Parade. 2 p.m. Main Street. Santa Claus is coming to Kinmount! Sponsored by The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441 & The Kinmount Committee for Planning & Economic Development. To enter a float, arrive at the marshalling area at the north end of town at 1 p.m. Call 488-2635 for further information.

• **December 15:** Candlelight Service and Potluck Supper. Welcome to St. Luke's Anglican Church. Help Us Celebrate 100 Years of Faith. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. Procession to St. Luke's Services at 7:30 p.m. Somerville Centre. Children and families - All are welcome!

• **December 16:** Alzheimer Society of Peterborough and Area Support Groups - Haliburton. Extending care from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please contact Janet Bottum, Support Services Coordinator, at the Alzheimer Society Office in Haliburton 457-8335.

• **December 16:** Alzheimer Society of Peterborough and Area Support Groups - Haliburton. Alzheimer Office Adult Child Group from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please contact Janet Bottum, Support Services Coordinator, at the Alzheimer Society Office in Haliburton 457-8335.

• **December 17:** The Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group will not be meeting tonight. We wish all a merry Xmas and a happy holiday season. Our next meeting is January 21, 2003 at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge - Hyland Crest Senior Citizen's Home. For information please contact Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699.

• **December 18:** Christmas Party and Potluck Lunch at C.H.A.C.E. Resource Centre Minden from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Santa will be visiting, so please bring a wrapped gift (under \$10) for your child. Call 286-1770 to sign up.

• **December 19:** Seniors Friendship Luncheon, 12 noon, at the Dorset Recreation Centre. Call (705)766-9968.

• **December 19:** Join Wheels to Meals at the Dominion Hotel in Minden for a delicious lunch, at 11:30 a.m. Call Ida at 457-2941 to make reservations or to get more information.

• **December 19:** Alzheimer Society of Peterborough and Area Support Groups - Minden. Hyland Crest, Meeting Classroom from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please contact Janet Bottum, Support Services Coordinator, at the Alzheimer Society Office in Haliburton 457-8335.

• **December 20:** Alzheimer Society Family/ Caregiver Group held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Kinmount and District Health Centre. Open group. A portable library is also available in your area for home viewing.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavor to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Times at 286-4768, emailed to editor@mindentimes.on.ca., or brought in to the office. **NOTE:** This calendar is **NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LISTING OF ALL EVENTS** taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in The Times for more information on events and in the Highlands.

the Wee Kirk

Christmas
Carol
Program

December 15th, 2002

2-4 pm

Candle Ceremony
7-9 pm

Refreshments provided
Voluntary Collection Taken

Minden Hills Museum
Corner of Parkside & Main St.



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3-WAY PLOW, comes with 3/4 ton GMC 4X4 pick-up truck, \$1,350. Doug, 286-1425.

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INCREDIBLE PRICES! Cedar letter boxes, \$47; hanging plant baskets from \$45; medium stained treasure chest, \$69, reg. \$89; selected area rugs, 30% off; 2-drawer pine sofa tables, \$199; CD crates, \$23; dry sinks, \$209; painted deacon's benches from \$229. **Muskoka Furniture, 195 Wellington St., Bracebridge, ON (705) 645-8183.**

CA

ITEMS FOR SALE - Steam cleaner attachment for Shop Vac, \$30; N64 Video Game System, \$75; N64 games Mario Party 2, 007 Goldeneye, \$20; Game Boy with Pokemon Yellow game, \$50; Polaroid 320 Digital Camera/software, \$35; 3-tier plant stand with grow lights, \$225; Homelite chainsaw XL925, \$75. Call 457-5302.

ITEMS FOR SALE: Roll-away bed & mattress; Singer sewing machine, kitchen table with 3 swivel chairs, 3 ft. oval mirror. Call 286-2722.

MILL PRICES: T&G flooring, pine, oak, maple, cherry - from \$1.69 per sq. ft. Pine and cedar for decks, exterior and interior sidings, cedar shingles, mouldings to order. **Highland Forest Products**, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 457-3192.

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 Buying antique furniture and reproduction furniture, china, glass, toys, old fishing gear, advertisement signs, tins, and other interesting items. Call anytime, Mike or Paulette, (705) 457-2250.

CA

DO YOU PLAY War Hammer 40,000? Looking for others to share strategy game with. Call Jack, evenings and weekends, 286-3621.

CA

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WANTED: USED STARTER drum kit, good price and good condition. Please call 286-3295.

050 VEHICLES

1988 CHEVROLET BERETTA, 2 door, runs well, body good, \$750 or B.O. Call, after 6 p.m., 286-3821.

1995 SUBARU LEGACY LSI - AWD, great in the snow, 115k, \$9,995. Call 457-5302.

2000 WINDSTAR SEL VAN. 56,000 km. Fully loaded, bucket seats, CD and cassette player, AC, back seat heat, PW, cruise, full dealer warranty. Cert. Tan colour, trailer hitch. New price \$36,000. Sell for \$25,590. Call 457-9754.

CA

060 RV'S/ATV'S & SNOWMOBILES

1978 YAMAHA ENTICER 440 fan. Good condition, \$1,000. ALSO, 1990 Polaris Indy Trail Deluxe with reverse, excellent condition, \$2,100. Phone 457-3224.

CA

1996 ARCTIC CAT Panthera, cover and luggage rack, \$3,200. Call 457-3134.

CA

1996 FORMULA THREE Skidoo Rotax 600, only 1900 miles, has reverse, hand warmers, in mint condition. asking \$4,500. Call 754-3090.

SKI-DOO, 1999 Formula Deluxe 583, elec. start, reverse, liquid, 1,500 km. Used one season. Immaculate, always stored inside. Asking \$4,895. Call Tim, 489-2813.

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2 BEDROOM HOME, suitable for small family, non-smokers, no pets, references required, first and last, \$650 including utilities. Call 754-4318.

CA

ELECTRICALLY HEATED cottage for rent. One - 2 bedroom, furnished. Call 489-2550.

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MINDEN CURLING CLUB - Newly renovated lounge. Planning a social event? Full facility is "SMOKE-FREE", lounge, bar, ice, kitchen. Catering available. For inquiries call 286-3311.

CA

SAVE MONEY ON your electricity bill. Rent or buy an oil-fired hot water heater from **Sid Stamp Fuels Ltd.** Call now for full details, 286-1088.

CA

200 HELP WANTED

PART-TIME, FULL-TIME experienced cashier needed. Knowledge of general store duties as well as lottery procedures required. Apply, in person, to Carnarvon Jug City, or fax resume to: 489-3974.

CA

Put the
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 to work for you!

200 HELP WANTED

COMMUNITY LIVING HALIBURTON COUNTY has an opening for a Full-Time Day Program Counsellor within our Lifeskills Program. All applicants must have Post Secondary Degree or Diploma in related discipline and three years experience working with people/families who have been labelled with an intellectual disability. The successful candidate must demonstrate good interpersonal, organizational and communication skills. Valid driver's licence and current Standard First Aid and C.P.R. are required. Resume and hand-written cover letter must be received by noon on Friday, December 13, 2002 and should be addressed to Elena Bjelis, Support Services Co-ordinator, Community Living Haliburton County, P.O. Box 90, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0. Only applicants selected for interview will be contacted.

CA

COOKS REQUIRED at the Kinark Outdoor Centre to start January 2003. We are located on Queens Line off of Hwy. 118, west of Carnarvon. Previous experience working in a food service setting preferred, and ability to work independently essential. Competitive salary. Please fax, e-mail or mail resumes to:
 Bruce Middleton
 Kinark Outdoor Centre
 P.O. Box 730
 Minden, ON K0M 2K0
 Fax: (705) 286-6184
 bruce.middleton@kinark.on.ca

CA

200 HELP WANTED

RESPONSIBLE PERSON for front counter work. Duties include: Booking appointments for customers, service phone calls, etc. Reply to Box "L", c/o The Times, Box 97, Minden, ON K0M 2K0.

CA

THE DOMAIN OF KILLIEN, one of the finest country inns in Canada, is hiring mature and experienced waiter/waitresses. Good presentation required. Attractive wages, transportation allowance. Contact 457-1100 or send resume to: Domain of Killien, Box 810, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0. Fax: 457-3853.

CA

The Haliburton Community Internet Access Program (CAP) is seeking youths/students to work in conjunction with the County CAP sites. Applicants must be between ages 15-30, and a resident of Ontario. Positions in libraries will require a police check. A high degree of computer literacy, Internet experience, an ability to write, to create web pages, to speak in public and to work independently would be an asset. Having use of a computer and a vehicle is preferable but not necessary. Positions pay \$8.00/hr. for a maximum of 420 hours. The contract runs until March 21, 2003. Please submit a letter of application and resume by mail or fax to: the County of Haliburton Community Access Program, Box 399, Minden, ON K0M 2K0/Fax: 705-286-4829. Deadline for application is December 13, 2002. For information call (705) 754-9859.

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Custodian

This full-time position commencing February 3, 2003, located at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, will see you work as a member of a team responsible for the cleaning and general maintenance of the school. Your several years of custodial work experience are complemented by a good knowledge of cleaning equipment, materials and methods, and basic building maintenance. In addition, you must be an excellent communicator, and physically fit to perform the duties of this role. You will be required to work 8-hour evening shifts, as well as provide a criminal reference check.

Applications, including a resume which documents qualifications and experience, and quoting file #CM-2002-10-30-06, should be forwarded, by December 17, 2002 to: Bob Squire, Plant Operations Supervisor, Trillium Lakelands District School Board, 1281 Cedar Lane Road, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1W9. Fax: 705-645-6605.

Trillium
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Advertisements for the Classified Section of THE TIMES and/or THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO can be placed by phone (705) 286-1288; by FAX (705) 286-4768; by mail Box 97, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0; by e-mail to ads@mindentimes.on.ca; or in person at our office at 134 Bobcaygeon Road (Main St., Minden).
ADVERTISING DEADLINE -- THURSDAY AT 5 PM

210 SKILLED HELP

LICENSED MARINE MECHANIC for busy seasonal shop. Wages commensurate with experience. Call (705) 488-2811, ask for Jamie. CA

220 CHILD CARE

DAYCARE IN MY HOME in Minden. 2 spaces available. Call Marion, 286-3865.

240 CAREERS

LAND TITLE SEARCHER required for Minden, full/part-time, related experience an asset. Reply, with resume, to Hutcheson-Barnes Titles Limited, P.O. Box 1381, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1V5. CA

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DIVORCE SURVIVAL STRATEGIES... Before spending large sums on legal fees, call THE FAMILY LAW CENTRE to understand your rights & obligations. Our lawyers will present you with your options & offer smart & proven strategies to help reduce your legal fees, safeguard your assets & defend your child custody & access rights. Don't be a victim! "Separate Smart" Toll-Free 1-866-879-3529.

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CA

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEAR SANTA: This year for Christmas I would like a GIFT CERTIFICATE from THE WILD ORCHID BISTRO THAI FOOD at Gambell's Antiques, Main St., Minden, across the bridge, 286-1532. Visa, M/C, Amex or Interac.

CA

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December 15, 2002
Minden
3-5 pm
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HELEN SKELDING
December 14, 2002
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420 PERSONALS

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440 THANK YOU

MINDEN HEALTH CARE AUXILIARY would like to thank the community for their support and donations for our luncheon and sale on November 23rd, and our bake sale on November 27th. Your support has made it possible for the Auxiliary to donate a Procedural Stretcher to Minden Hospital in January. May you all have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2003.

CA

THE FAMILY OF the late William "Orval" Francis wish to thank family, friends and neighbours for their support and acts of kindness on the death of our dear father, grandfather and great grandfather. Special thanks to The Gordon Monk Funeral Home, Minden, and to Mr. Gordon Monk for handling the funeral service, the pallbearers and the Minden Legion Branch 636 for both the well attended Legion Service and the excellent lunch following the funeral. Special thanks to Hanna, Harold and Marg for their friendship and special care, also Frances, Neville and Cathy for being such great neighbours. We thank the nursing staff at Ross Memorial Hospital, Medical South, for their excellent care. A special thanks to Dr. Summer for his excellent care and compassionate consideration for both Orval and the family.

450 IN MEMORIAM

McDONALD - In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, Roy, who passed away December 10, 2001. Only the Best - A heart of gold stopped beating. Two tired eyes at rest. God broke our hearts to prove. He only takes the best. God knows you had to leave us. But you did not go alone. For part of us went with you. The day He took you home. To some you are forgotten. To others just part of the past. But to us who loved and lost you, The memory will always last. Lovingly remembered by wife **Verna**, and **Carol, Brian, Roger, Marilyn** and families.

460 OBITUARIES

DAVE DOWNARD
Passed away suddenly at home on Kushog Lake on Tuesday, December 3, 2002 at the age of 59.

Beloved husband of Sharon. Loving father of Andrea and her husband Jon Whiteley of Milton, Samantha Davies of Kushog Lake, Melissa and her husband Duane Brankiewicz of Georgetown. Loving grandfather of Connor, Zackery, Alexis and Kyle. Dear brother of Douglas (Lynne), Donald (Helen), and predeceased by sister Dianne. Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews and friends. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service was held at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden, Ontario, on Saturday, December 7, 2002 at 1:30 p.m. Memorial donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

CA

DAVID W.P. "DAVE" McADAM

Passed away suddenly at the Toronto General Hospital, on Saturday, November 30, 2002 at the age of 72.

Beloved husband of the late Ann (nee Worthy). Loving father of Valerie, Alan, predeceased by Brian and dear father-in-law of Joanne, Robb and Pam. Dear brother of Charlton. Dave was born and raised in Toronto, worked as an entrepreneur in the automobile insurance industry as a claims adjuster. He was a dedicated member and past President of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #636 Minden, a friend to St. Paul's Anglican Church and was an avid curler at the Minden Curling Club. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 (1-888-588-5777) on Thursday, December 5, 2002, from 3:00 until 6:00 p.m. and on Friday, December 6, 2002, from 12:30 p.m. until the time of the combined Legion and Funeral Services at 2:00 p.m. Cremation to follow. Memorial donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #636, Minden, would be appreciated by the family.

CA

460 OBITUARIES

DORIS H. BARKWELL (nee Chalmers)
Passed away at the Haliburton Hospital, on Tuesday, December 3, 2002, at the age of 76.

Beloved wife of the late Garland, dear mother of John and his wife Michelle of Kinmount, Jane of Kinmount, Dan and his wife Kathy of Brampton. Loving grandmother of Cori, Kristi, Sarah and great grandmother of Spencer. Dear sister of Madeline Hartin, Betty Scott and predeceased by Earl Chalmers. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Thursday. Then to Kinmount Baptist Church for Funeral Service on Friday, December 6, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. Interment Kinmount Cemetery. Reception followed at the Kinmount Baptist Church. Memorial donations to the Kinmount Baptist Church or to the Kinmount District Health Centre would be appreciated by the family.

CA

GARBUTT, REG - Peacefully at Extencicare Scarborough on Thursday, November 21, 2002, in his 97th year. Reg, beloved husband of the late Bertha. Loving father of Jack, Bob, Joan (Kinnersly), Reg. Jr., Jim and the late Lenore (Duncan). He will be sadly missed by his 23 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren and many friends. Reg was a long-time summer cottager on Big Bob Lake, a place for which he had much love. Funeral took place in Scarborough, with interment at Pine Hills Cemetery. If so desired, memorial donation to Haliburton Highlands Health Services would be appreciated by the family.

JANE CALDWELL GRAHAM
Passed away at Extencicare, Haliburton, on Wednesday, December 4, 2002 at the age of 77.

Jane was born on July 31, 1925 in Strathavon, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and came to Canada as a War Bride. She had many hobbies which included being an enthusiastic world traveller, an avid curler, a bridge player and a frustrated golfer. She helped establish Meals on Wheels in Haliburton County. Beloved wife of Philip Graham. Dear mother of Gordon and his wife Jane of Rockcliffe Park. Loving grandmother of Gillian. Dear sister of Isobel Barclay of Troon, Scotland. Friends were invited to join the family for a Celebration of Life Service to remember Jane which was held at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 (1-888-588-5777) on Saturday, December 7, 2002, at 11:00 a.m. Memorial donations to the Proud Pioneers or to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family.

CA

460 OBITUARIES

SAMUEL DAVID "DAVE" LYNAS
Passed away at Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay, because of cancer, on Saturday, November 30, 2002 at the age of 72.

Husband of the late Ruth and son of the late Martha. Father to Sharon (Baird) and Ron (Kris), brother of Bert Lynas and Betty Stewart and close friend to Vi. A Private Family Interment will be held at the Minden Cemetery. At Dave's request there will be no visitations or funeral service. Friends and family were invited to an informal gathering at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 (1-888-588-5777) on Wednesday, December 4, 2002 from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. Memorial donations to charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

CA

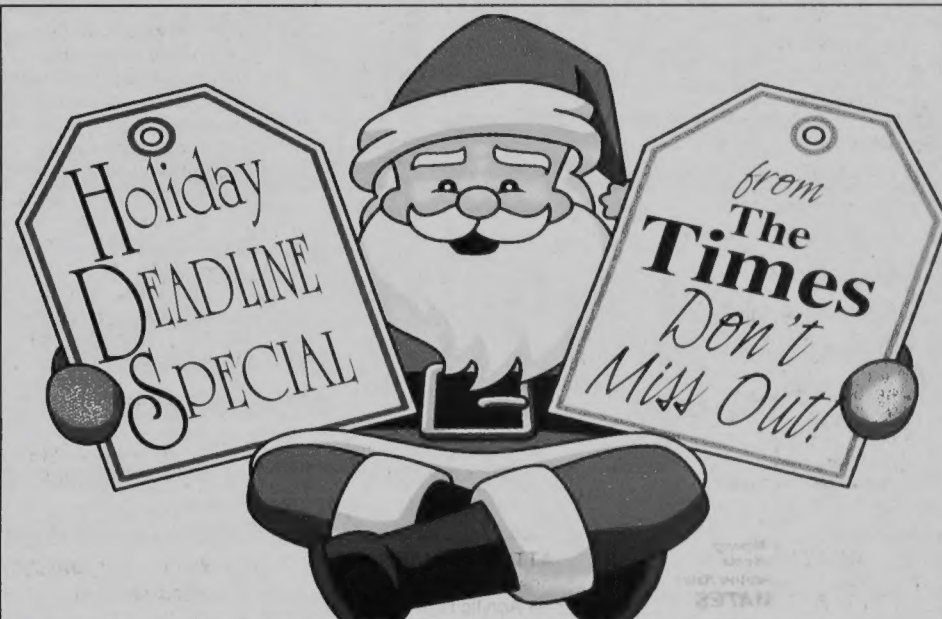
WILLIAM "ORVAL" FRANCIS, born at Gelert, Ontario, who passed away at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay, September 30, 2002, at the age of 84 years. Son of the late John and Lenora Francis. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marguerite Bernice Hamilton, of Frost Manor, Lindsay. Also, fondly remembered by children Elizabeth and her husband Michael Sears, Bowmanville, Bill and his wife Carol, Cameron, Bob and his wife Bev, Bobcaygeon; grandchildren Sara and Raymond Sears, Carrie Francis, Mike (and Glenna) Francis, Jeff (and Jackie) Francis; great grandchildren CONTINUED...

460 OBITUARIES

Nicole Francis, Sara Francis, Christopher and Nicholas Francis; brothers and sisters Susan, John Henry (Jack), Charlie, Edna, May, Clarence (Ted), Stewart (Carl), Ivan (Pete), all predeceased and Alan and Myrtle still living; other surviving relatives, his sisters-in-law Alice Sedgwick, Ruby, Clara and Gladys Francis. Orval was in good health until August 28, 2002. He went to bed healthy and suffered a serious stroke. He was transported by ambulance to Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay, where he passed away peacefully one month later, surrounded by family. Orval lived over 31,000 days and he didn't waste very many of them. Every day counted for something. A good end to a good life. Orval was born and raised in Gelert, seven miles from Minden. His work with the C.N.R. took him and his family to Bannockburn for one year (1953), then back to Gelert for a year and then Cameron and Lindsay until his retirement in 1982. As soon as he retired, it was back to Minden for 20 years of active retirement. Orval attended Gelert Public School. His first employment would have been on the family farm starting at age six. "Every one had a job and we knew what it was, and we did it." He went into the lumber camps at age 16 and worked on road construction. His father died as the result of a farm accident when Orval was 15 so there was a lot of farm work to be done. He also worked at the Donald Chemical Co. in the late 1930's. He joined the C.N.R. as a section man in 1940, served for five years in the Canadian Armed

460 OBITUARIES

Forces, returned to his railroad job, worked his way up to foreman and retired with 42 years service. Orval enlisted with the Midland Regiment, November 22, 1940. He transferred to, and served with, the Storemont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders in Europe. Decorations and medals: Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, France Star, German Star. The medal, of which he was most proud, was the 'Thank you Canada 1945' which the Dutch people awarded to the Canadian soldiers who fought in the liberation of Holland, 1944-45. He received this medal in February 2002 and the Minden Times did a front page article on it. Orval was an active member of the Minden Legion Branch 636 and a 50-year "paid-up member" of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees. His special interests included euchre at the Legion plus Gelert and Lochlin and morning coffee and companionship at Mr. D's. His greatest interest was always his family and his gardens, both flower and vegetable, which were his pride and joy. The funeral service was held October 3, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home, Minden, Ontario, with interment at Gelert Cemetery, Gelert, Ontario. At Orval's prior request, the complete service was handled by his long-time trusted friend Gordon Monk. The Minden Legion Branch 636 paid tribute on October 2. Pallbearers were nephews and a niece, Ivy Finch, Tom Francis, Harry Francis, Dwayne Wruth, Francis (Porky) Walker, and Donnie Walker.



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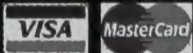
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